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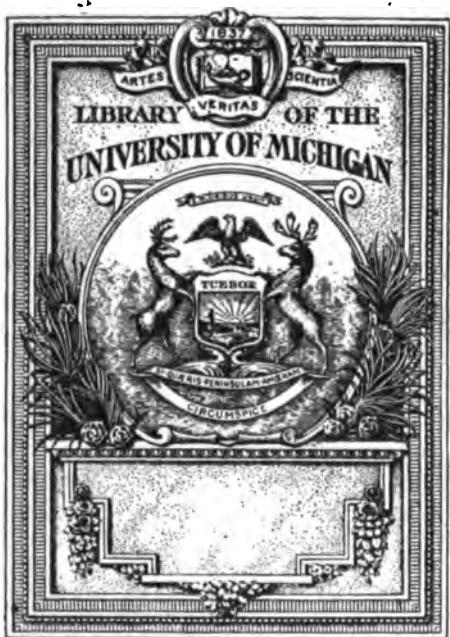
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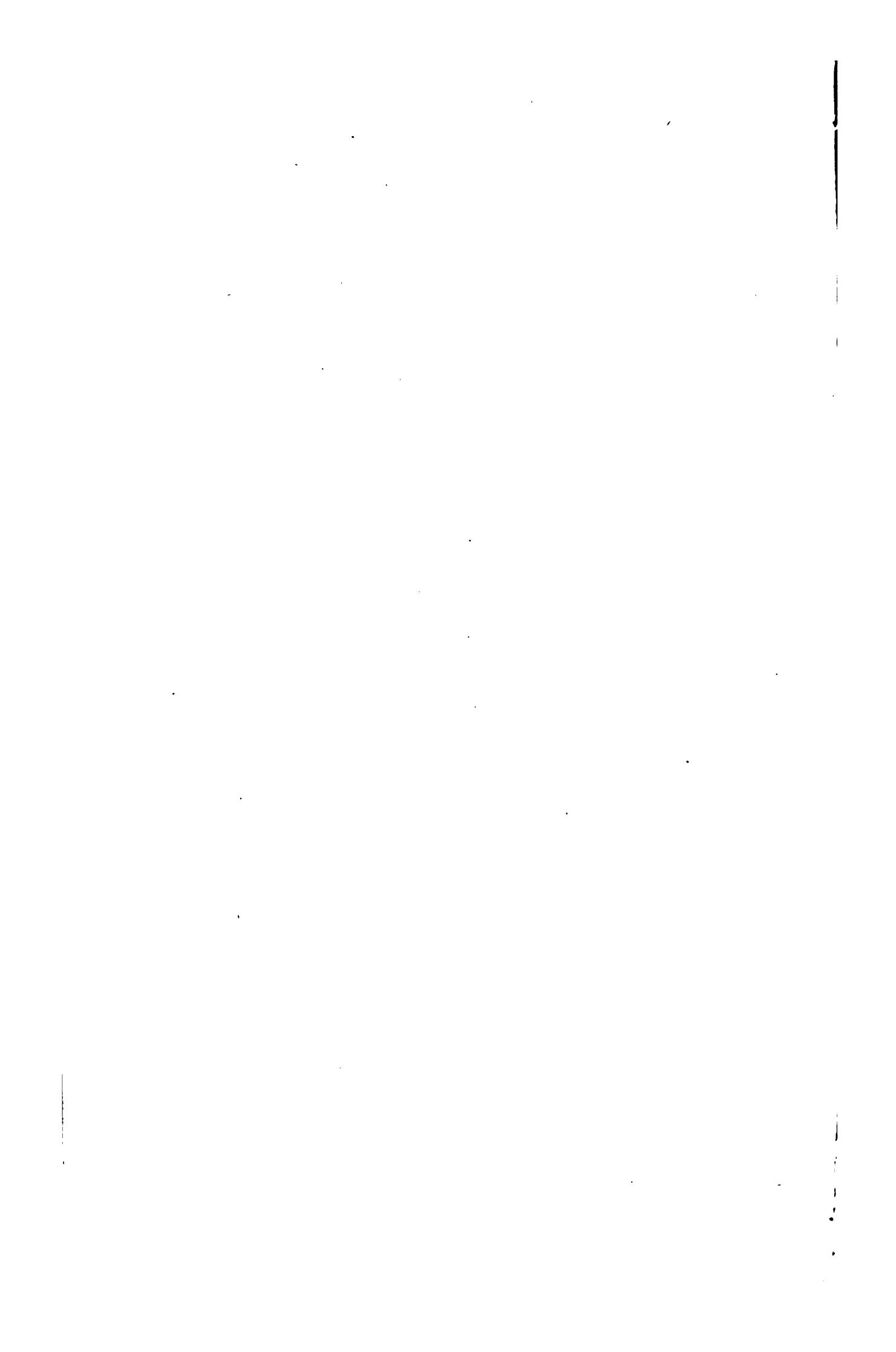
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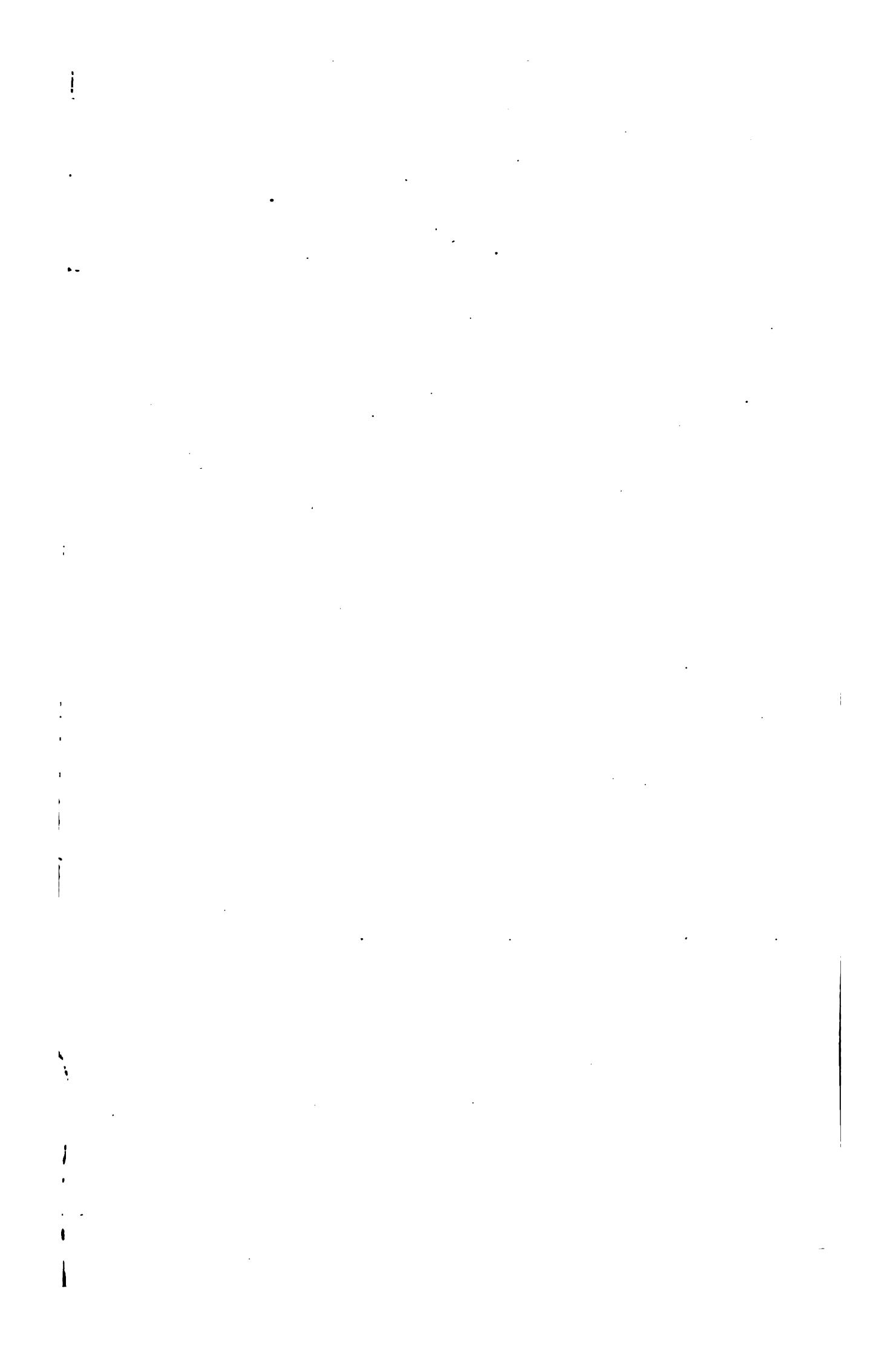
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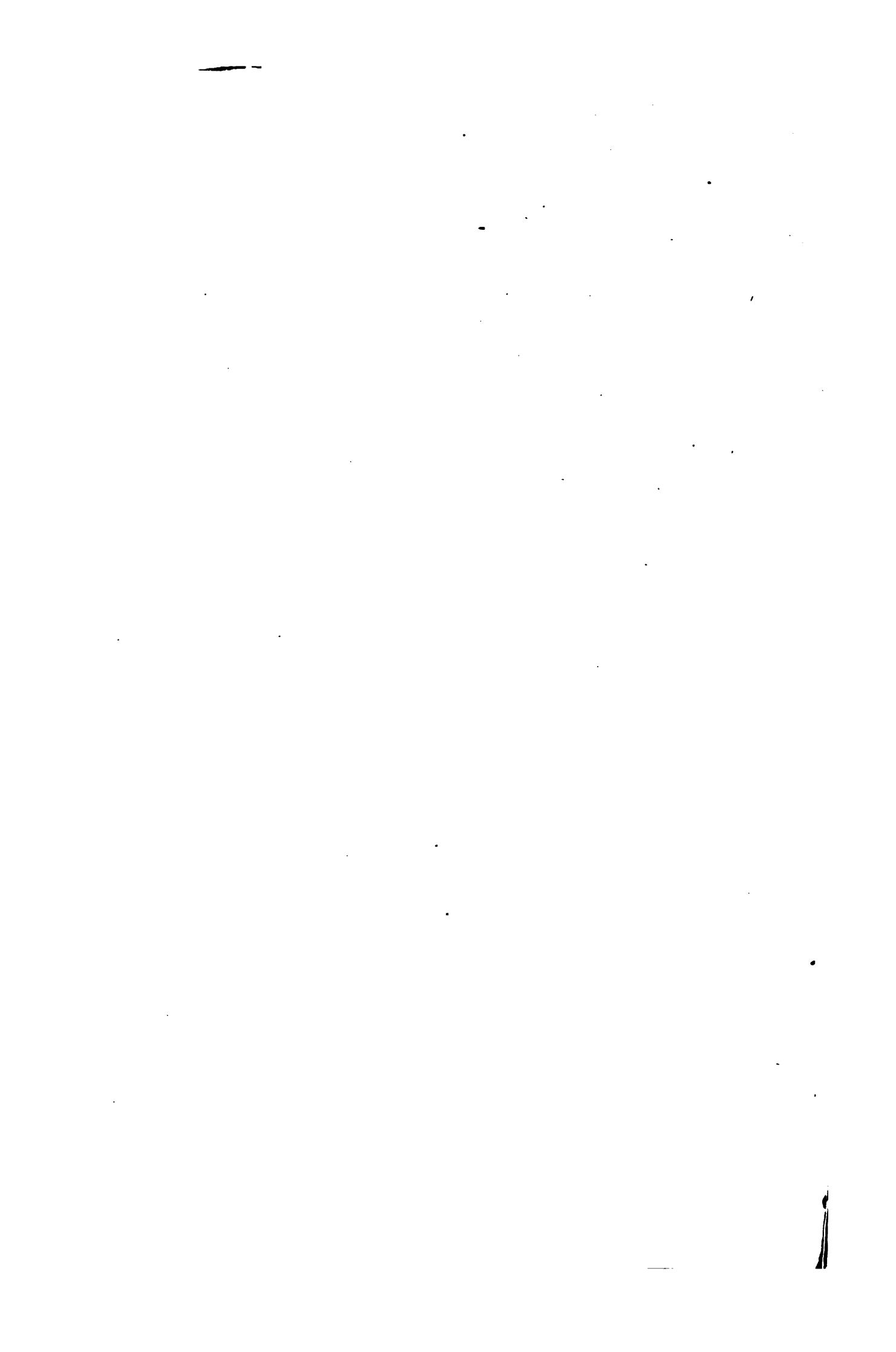
1784—1884.

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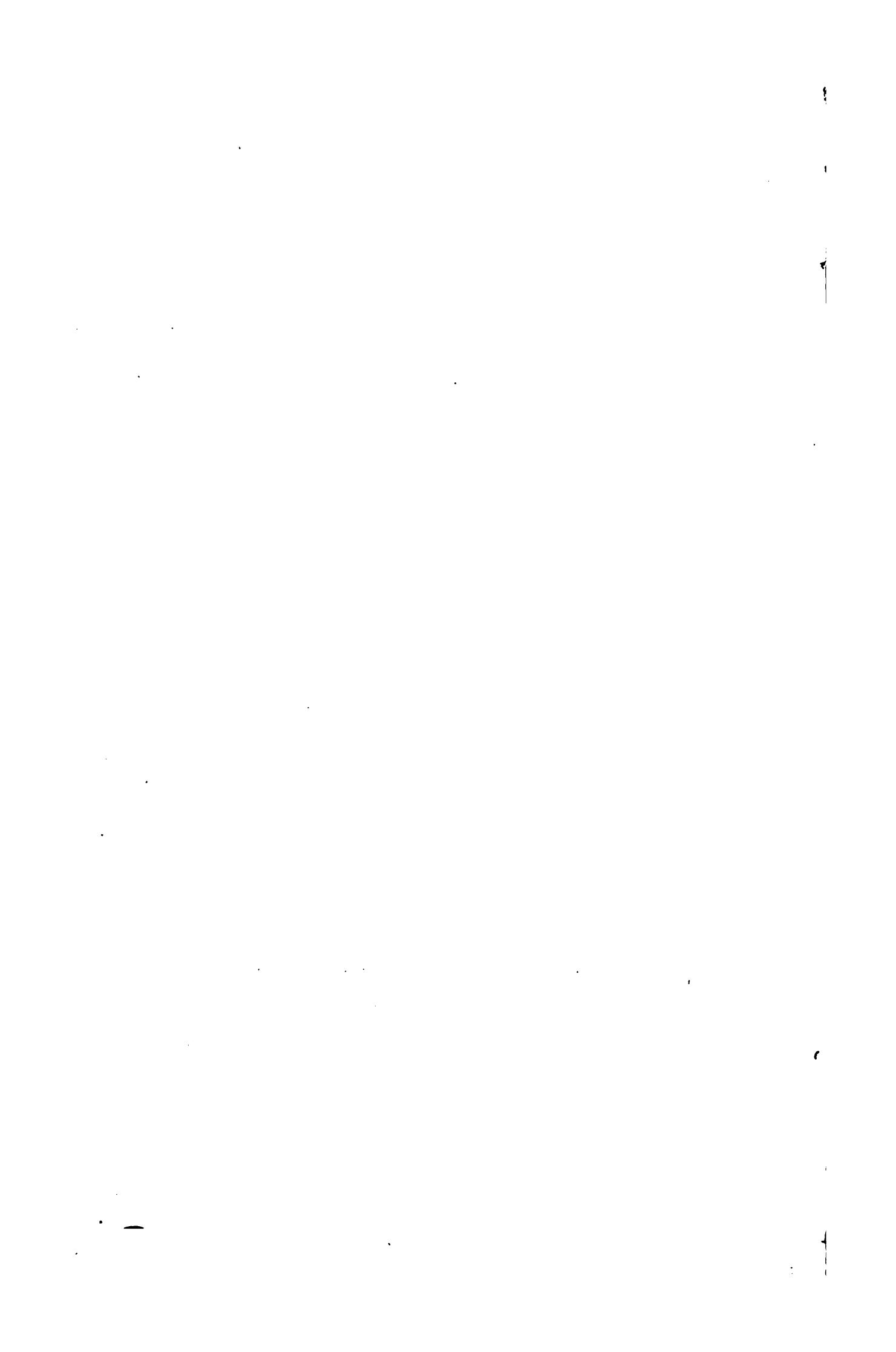




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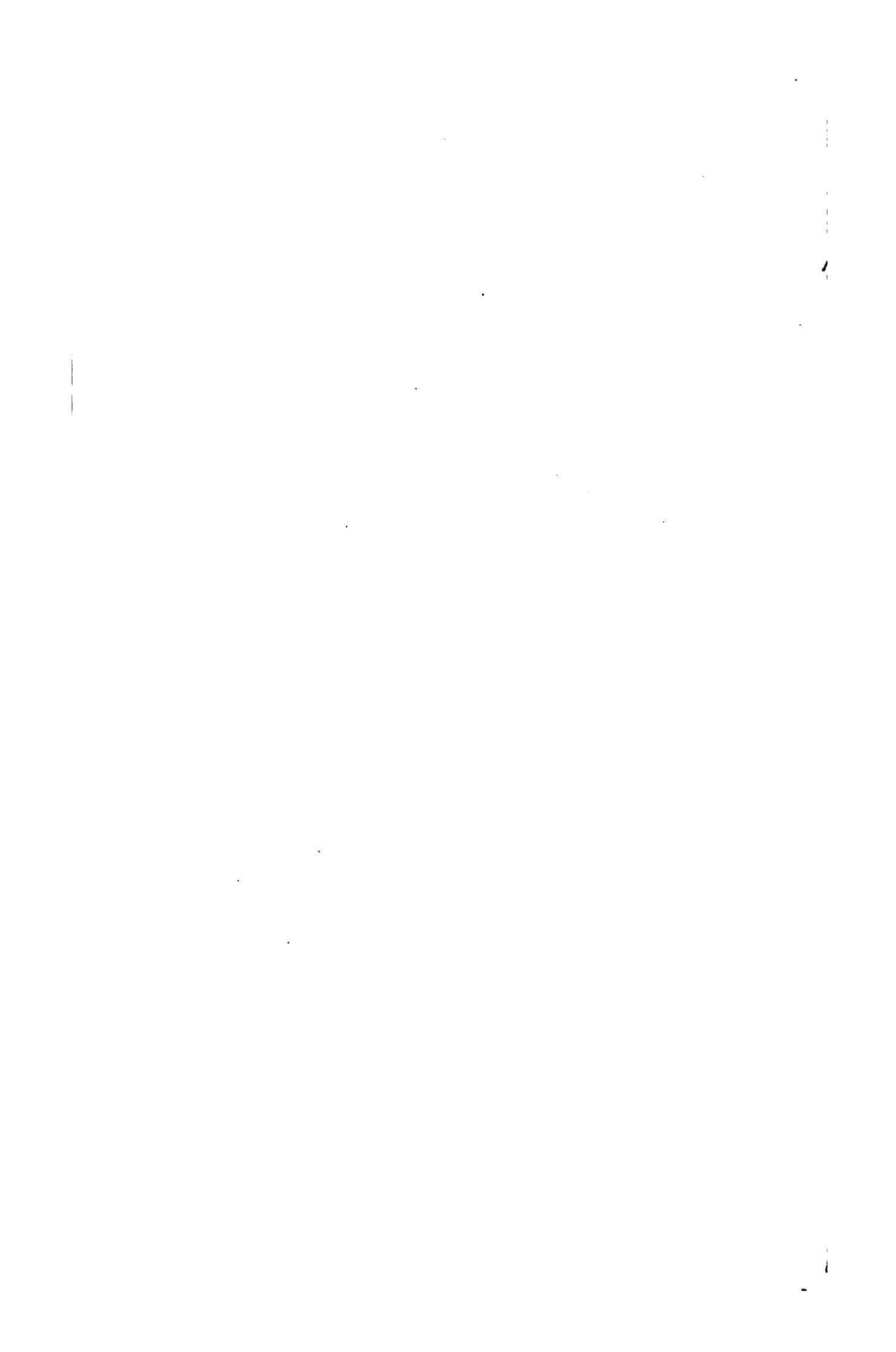
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COMPILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE
GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAY 14TH, 1884.

334530



1784

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CINCINNATI,
BY THEIR DELEGATES
IN GENERAL MEETING CONVENED AT PHILADELPHIA,
THE
FOURTH DAY OF MAY, ANNO DOMINI 1784;
BEING THEIR FIRST GENERAL MEETING.

GENERAL WASHINGTON, acting as president.
GENERAL KNOX, acting as secretary.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to receive and examine the credentials of the delegates to this meeting and report.
The members chosen were, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Dearborn and Mr. Turner.
The meeting adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 5th.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to receive and inspect the credentials of the delegates, reported that upon strict examination of the different testimonials produced, they find that the following gentlemen appear to have been duly elected as representatives for their respective State Societies, viz.:—

For New Hampshire :

Mr. Dearborn.

Massachusetts :

Mr. Knox,

Mr. Putnam,

Mr. Hull,

Mr. Cobb,

Mr. Sargent.

For Connecticut :

Mr. Parsons,

Mr. Huntington,

Mr. Swift,

Mr. Trumbull,

Mr. Humphreys.

For New York :

Mr. Cortlandt,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Fairlie.

New Jersey :

Mr. E. Dayton,
Mr. Brearley,
Mr. Cumming,
Mr. Ogden,
Mr. J. Dayton.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. Dickinson,
Mr. Moylan,
Mr. Robinson,
Mr. Bower,
Mr. Claypoole.

Delaware :

Mr. Moore,
Mr. Tilton.

Maryland :

Mr. Smallwood,
Mr. Williams,
Mr. Paca,
Mr. Ramsay.

For Virginia :

Mr. Weedon,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Heth,
Mr. Hopkins,
Mr. H. Lee.

North Carolina :

Mr. Lytle,
Mr. Blount,
Mr. McRea.

South Carolina :

Mr. White,
Mr. Washington,
Mr. Morris,
Mr. Turner.

Georgia :

Mr. Eustace,
Mr. Cuthbert,
Mr. Lucas,
Mr. Field.

Resolved, unanimously, That the manner of voting be by the representation of each State Society.

General Washington having moved that a resolution of the Society, dated at the cantonment of the American army, June 19th, 1783, requesting the commander-in-chief to officiate as president-general until the next general meeting of the Society, might be read; and the same being read accordingly, he laid the original institution of the Society on the table, with the official letters which he had written and received in consequence thereof, and retired.

General Knox, acting as secretary-general, by virtue of the same appointments, also requested leave to retire.

Whereupon, the meeting went into a committee, and General Smallwood took the chair, and on motion,

Resolved, That the election of officers of the General Society be for the present postponed.

It was then unanimously

Resolved, That General Washington be requested to preside at this general meeting until the whole business of the meeting be duly completed.

Mr. Williams, Mr. E. Dayton, Mr. Ramsay and Mr. Turner were appointed to wait upon General Washington, and to inform him of the request of this meeting.

General Washington accepted, and took the chair.

Mr. Turner was chosen secretary *pro tem.*

Two letters were produced by the late secretary-general, and read; one a circular letter from the Delaware State Society of the Cincinnati, dated the 6th November, 1783; the other a letter from the Reverend Adam Boyd, of North Carolina, dated the 29th December, 1783.

Resolved, That the meeting go into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the institution of the Society.

Mr. Ramsay in the chair.

The president having resumed the chair, the chairman of the committee of the whole reported, "that they had made some progress, but, not having finished the business, begged leave to sit again."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 6th.

Met according to adjournment.

Read a letter from the Chevalier de Lameth, of the 6th of January, 1784, and one from the Count de Lilancour, of the 20th February, 1784, addressed to the Society.

Mr. Trumbull, a delegate from the State Society of Connecticut, attended and took his seat.

Mr. Heth, a delegate from the State Society of Virginia, attended and took his seat.

The meeting having gone into a committee of the whole, the committee reported, "that having gone into a full consideration of the institution, they are unanimously of opinion that sundry matters and things therein contained ought to be corrected."

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to reconsider, revise, alter and amend the general system of the Society of the Cincinnati, and to form a correct institution or code of principles and obligations, by which all the members of this Society of Friends are to be united and governed in future, and to report their progress in that business daily.

Resolved, That the committee consist of one member from each State Society present, and that the same be elected by ballot.

The following members were duly elected, viz. :—

For New Hampshire: Mr. Dearborn.

Massachusetts: Mr. Knox.

For New York:	Mr. Smith.
New Jersey:	Mr. Bearerley.
Pennsylvania:	Mr. Dickinson.
Delaware:	Mr. Tilton.
Maryland:	Mr. Smallwood.
Virginia:	Mr. Weedon.
South Carolina:	Mr. Washington.
Georgia:	Mr. Cuthbert.

The votes for a member from Connecticut being equally divided between Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Trumbull, the ballots were taken for electing one of these gentlemen, and Mr. Humphreys was thereupon chosen.

Resolved, That the following papers be laid before the committee of revision for their information, viz.:—

A circular letter, dated October 30th, 1783, from the president-general to the Sieur Girard, Count d'Estaing, Count de Barras, Count de Grasse, and the Chevalier des Touches, enclosing copies of the institution of the Cincinnati.

A letter of the same date, from the same to the Count de Rochambeau, enclosing a copy of the institution.

A letter from the same to the Marquis de la Fayette.

Copy of a certificate given by the same to Major l'Enfant, a member of the Cincinnati, dated November 1st, 1783.

A letter in French, from Major l'Enfant to the president-general, dated the 25th of December, 1783, with a translation annexed.

A letter of the same date from the Marquis de la Fayette to the same, with enclosures.

A letter of the 19th of January, 1784, from the Count de Rochambeau to the same, with enclosures.

A letter of the 20th of April, 1784, from Major l'Enfant to the same, together with sundry other letters and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. Moylan and Mr. Williams take all the papers now on the table, arrange them, and cause such of them as are in French to be translated.

The meeting adjourned till to-morrow morning at twelve o'clock.

Friday, May 7th.

Met according to adjournment, when Mr. Henry Lee, one of the delegates from Virginia, and Mr. Reading Blount, one of the delegates from North Carolina, attended, produced their respective credentials and took their seats in consequence.

On motion Mr. Blount was added to the committee of revision.

The committee for arranging papers report "that they have assorted and labeled all the papers written in English; that they have also assorted the letters, memorials and credentials written or introduced by the Marquis de la Fayette, and have translated such of them as are in French, all which are now offered. They further report that the remainder of the papers before them are principally from the Count d'Estaing and Count de Rochambeau and other French officers of distinction, and being written in French the committee beg further time to translate them."

The report being accepted, the meeting proceeded to the examination of the papers and letters assorted and labeled by the said committee, and the same being read were filed.

The committee of revision reported that they had made some progress in the business before them, and begged further time to accomplish it.

Resolved, That the president-general of the meeting of the Cincinnati for the time being shall ever be considered *ex-officio* a member of all committees, and have a right to debate and vote therein whenever he may think proper to attend.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, twelve o'clock.

Saturday, May 8th.

Met according to adjournment, and read the following papers lying on the table, viz.:—

A bundle indorsed "Georgia Papers," containing a letter dated the 20th of April, 1784, from Major General McIntosh, president of the Georgia State Society, to the president-general.

A bundle indorsed "North Carolina Papers," containing a letter dated 28th of October, 1783, from Adam Boyd, secretary of the State Society there, to Major General Baron de Steuben, inclosing a copy of President Sumner's letter to the same.

A bundle indorsed "Papers particularly relating to the General Meeting, Proceedings and Reports of Committees," containing a letter dated the 23d February, 1784, from Brigadier General Huntington to the president-general.

A letter dated the 29th of January, 1784, from Major General St. Clair to the same.

A letter of same date, from Brigadier General Dayton to the same.

A letter of the 10th of February, 1784, from Major General Smallwood to the same.

A letter of the 16th of February, 1784, from Major General Greene to the same.

A letter of the 2d of March, 1784, from Major General Lincoln to the same.

A letter of the 12th of March, 1784, from Major General Sullivan to the same.

A report of the committee of the whole "That the Institution be corrected and amended," dated the 6th instant.

A bundle indorsed "Copy of Certificates, &c.," containing a form of certificate for members of the Cincinnati.

A copy of a certificate given to Captain de Pontiere as a member of the Cincinnati, dated the 22d of July, 1783.

A letter from Captain de Pontiere, of the same date, to the secretary-general of the Society.

A certificate, dated 16th of October, 1783, given by the president-general to Major l'Enfant.

A form of certificate given to Colonel Gouvion, 19th of October, 1783, with a N. B. that similar certificates were given to certain other members.

A copy of a certificate given to Major Segond and Captain Beaulieu, 1st December, 1783.

A bundle indorsed "South Carolina Papers," containing (among other things) a letter from General Moultrie to the president-general, 6th April, 1784.

The committee of revision having reconsidered, revised, altered and amended the General Institution of the Cincinnati, delivered in the same, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Turner having moved that a secretary be appointed to succeed him, the ballots being taken, Mr. Trumbull was elected.

The committee for arranging the papers laid on the table—those from the Chevalier de la Luzerne, the Counts d'Estaing, de Rochambeau and de Barras, and others, with translations thereof, and also sundry letters, petitions and memorials—then withdrew, by permission, to complete the business.

Resolved, That this meeting will on Monday next resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the report of the committee of revision.

Adjourned to meet accordingly at nine o'clock in the morning.

Monday, May 10th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. McRea, a delegate from North Carolina, attended, produced his credentials and took his seat.

On motion that the resolution last entered on the journals of Saturday be expunged, the question passed in the negative.

The order of the day was then called for, and the general meeting went accordingly into a committee of the whole. Mr. Smallwood in the chair.

The committee of the whole having risen and reported their opinion, it was

Resolved, That sundry paragraphs of the report of the committee of revision be committed.

Resolved, That the committee of revision be excused from further attendance on that duty.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the several paragraphs in the report of the committee of revision ordered to be committed, and that they report thereon.

The ballots being taken, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Williams, Mr. Lee, Mr. Smith and Mr. Knox were duly elected.

A letter from Brigadier General Armand, dated the 10th May, 1784, was read and ordered to lie on the table until the report of the committee to whom the report of the committee of revision is committed shall be received.

Received and read a letter from Major l'Enfant, of the same date, and referred it to the committee for arranging papers.

Adjourned till to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, May 11th.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee for arranging papers produced several foreign letters and papers, with their translations, which were read in the order following, viz. :—

A letter from Mons. de Bougainville to General Washington, dated Paris, 24th December, 1783.

A letter from the Count de Barras to General Washington, dated Paris, the 23d January, 1784, recommending the captains serving in his squadron to the notice of the Society.

A letter from the Count de Rochambeau to General Washington, dated Paris, the 29th of January, 1784, with enclosures.

A letter from the same to the same, dated Paris, the 13th February, 1784, with enclosures respecting Colonel de Lilancour.

A bundle of miscellaneous papers containing memorials and applications from sundry officers, etc., referred to in the letters of the Count d'Estaing, Count de Rochambeau, Marquis de la Fayette, etc.

A letter from the Count de Rochambeau to General Washington, dated Paris, 19th January, 1784, inclosing a copy of Marshal de Ségur's letter to the Count, dated Versailles, 18th December, 1783.

A translation of a letter from the Chevalier de la Luzerne to General Washington, relative to the letters of the Counts d'Estaing, de Grasse, etc., respecting the application of the French navy captains.

A letter from the Viscount de la Bretonnière to General Washington, dated the 1st February, 1784.

Sundry letters and memorials, enclosed in letters from the Count d'Estaing, dated 25th December, 1783.

Observations of Count d'Estaing relative to petitions, etc., forwarded by him to the Society.

The committee of five on the several paragraphs of the report of the committee of revision which were committed, reported that they had made considerable progress in that business, hoped that they should be able to report fully to-morrow morning, and begged leave to sit again.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, May 12th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. Samuel Ward, a delegate from Rhode Island, attended, produced his credentials and took his seat.

The committee of five delivered in their final report, and on motion, that the meeting resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take the said report into consideration, the general meeting went into a committee of the whole accordingly (Mr. Weedon in the chair), and afterwards arose and reported :

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report of the committee of five be postponed until to-morrow.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 13th.

Met according to adjournment.

Proceeded on the order of the day, a question having arisen whether by a construction of the principles of the institution, such officers of the State troops as have served three years can be admitted as members.

Resolved in the *affirmative*.

The report of the committee of five on the amendment of the Institution of the Society was next taken up and debated paragraph by paragraph. Several alterations and amendments being made therein, the following was agreed to as the Institution by which the Cincinnati shall in future be governed, viz :

**THE INSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI
AS ALTERED AND AMENDED AT THEIR FIRST
GENERAL MEETING.**

It having pleased the Supreme Governor of the Universe to give success to the arms of our country, and to establish the United States free and independent: Therefore, gratefully to commemorate this event; to inculcate to the latest ages the duty of laying down in peace, arms assumed for public defence, by forming an Institution which recognizes that most important principle; to continue the mutual friendships which commenced under the pressure of common danger; and to effectuate the acts of beneficence, dictated by the spirit of brotherly kindness towards those officers and their families, who unfortunately may be under the necessity of receiving them; the officers of the American Army do hereby constitute themselves into a **SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**: and possessing the highest veneration for the character of that illustrious Roman, **LUCRUS QUINTUS CINCINNATUS**, denominate themselves the **SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI**.

SECTION 1. The persons who constitute this Society are all the commissioned and brevet officers of the Army and Navy of the United States, who have served three years, and who left the service with reputation; all officers who were in actual service at the conclusion of the war; all the principal Staff Officers of the Continental Army; and the officers who have been deranged by the several resolutions of Congress, upon the different reforms of the army.

SECTION 2. There are also admitted into this Society, the late and present Ministers of his Most Christian Majesty to the United States; all the Generals and Colonels of regiments and legions of the land forces; all the Admirals and Captains of the Navy, ranking as Colonels, who have co-operated with the armies of the United States, in their exertions for liberty; and such other persons as have been admitted by the respective State meetings.

SECTION 3. The Society shall have a President, Vice President, Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

SECTION 4. There shall be a meeting of the Society, at least once in three years, on the first Monday in May, at such place as the President shall appoint.

The said meeting shall consist of the aforesaid officers (whose expenses shall be equally borne by the State funds) and a representation from each State.

The business of this general meeting shall be to regulate the distribution of surplus funds, to appoint officers for the ensuing term, and to conform the by-laws of the State meetings to the general objects of the Institution.

SECTION 5. The Society shall be divided into State meetings; each meeting shall have a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, to be chosen by a majority of votes annually.

SECTION 6. The State meetings shall be on the Anniversary of Independence. They shall concert such measures as may conduce to the benevolent purposes of the Society, and the several State meetings shall, at suitable periods, make applications to their respective legislatures for grants of charters.

SECTION 7. Any member removing from one State to another, is to be considered in all respects as belonging to the meeting of the State in which he shall actually reside.

SECTION 8. The State meeting shall judge of the qualification of its members, admonish, and (if necessary) expel any one who may conduct himself unworthily.

SECTION 9. The Secretary of each State meeting shall register the names of the members resident in each State, and transmit a copy thereof to the Secretary of the Society.

SECTION 10. In order to form funds for the relief of unfortunate members, their widows and orphans, each officer shall deliver to the Treasurer of the State meeting one month's pay.

SECTION 11. No donations shall be received, but from citizens of the United States.

SECTION 12. The funds of each State meeting shall be loaned to the State by permission of the legislature, and the interest only annually to be applied for the purposes of the Society, and if, in process of time, difficulties should occur in executing the intentions of the Society, the legislatures of the several States shall be requested to make such equitable dispositions as may be most correspondent with the original design of the Institution.

SECTION 13. The subjects of his Most Christian Majesty, members of this Society may hold meetings at their pleasure, and form regulations for their police conformably to the objects of the Institution and to the spirit of their government.

SECTION 14. The Society shall have an order, which shall be a bald eagle of gold, bearing on its breast the emblems hereafter described, suspended by a deep blue ribbon edged with white, descriptive of the union of America and France.

"The principal figure Cincinnatus, three Senators presenting him with a sword and other military ensigns. On a field in the back ground, his wife standing at the door of their cottage: near it a plough and other implements of husbandry. Round the whole, *omnia reliquit servare rem publicam*. On the reverse, sun rising, a city with open gates and vessels entering the port; Fame crowning Cincinnatus with a wreath

inscribed *virtutis præmium*. Below, hands joined, supporting a heart with the motto *estō perpetua*. Round the whole, *Societas Cincinnatorum Instituta, A. D. 1783.*"

SECTION 15. A silver medal representing the emblems to be given to each member of the Society, together with a diploma on parchment, whereon shall be impressed the figures of the order and medal as above mentioned.

Resolved, That the Institution, as amended and altered, be forwarded to each State meeting and to the meeting in France, and that it be accompanied with a circular letter to each, explanatory of the reasons which produced the amendments and alterations, and recommending the same to their observance.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare the circular letter, to whom also be referred the Institution as amended for critical and grammatical correction and engrossment.

The members chosen were Messrs. Dickinson, Lee and Humphreys.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take up and examine all the papers and letters addressed to this meeting and report thereon.

The members chosen were Messrs. Williams, Smith and Knox.

The meeting adjourned till to-morrow noon, twelve o'clock.

Friday, May 14th.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee on the circular letter, etc., reported that they had made considerable progress in the business, and begged leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this general meeting will to-morrow proceed to the election of officers of the Society for the ensuing term.

The committee on the letters and papers reported, "That the letters necessary to be acknowledged and answered are from the Chevalier de la Luzerne, Count d'Estaing, Count de Barras, Marquis de la Fayette, Count de Lilancour, Count de Rochambeau, Admiral de Bougainville, Baron Vioménil, and a late letter from Brigadier General Armand, Marquis de la Rouerie; that there are a number of memorials, petitions, and other papers, from foreign gentlemen, which ought to be referred to the Society in France; that there are other papers which ought to remain in the hands of the secretary, for future reference, if necessary—all which are assort'd."

Mr. Smith, Mr. Williams and Mr. Knox were chosen as a committee to prepare and lay before the meeting drafts of letters in answer to those received from the several gentlemen above named.

On motion, the same committee were directed to receive from Major l'Enfant his report of the execution of his commission to France, and report thereon.

A committee of three were appointed to prepare and lay before the meeting the form of a diploma, to be given to each member along with the emblems.

The members chosen were Mr. Dayton, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Fairlie.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

Saturday, May 15th.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee for preparing drafts of letters reported, and laid on the table the draft of a letter to the Baron Vioménil, and another to Brigadier General Armand. They also reported that they had received and examined Major l'Enfant's account for his agency in France, and laid the same on the table.

Resolved, That the officers of his Most Christian Majesty's army and navy, who have served in America, and who were promoted to the rank of colonel, for special services, are comprehended in the Institution of the Cincinnati, as altered and amended.

The committee on the circular letter, and for correcting and engrossing the institution, reported and laid on the table the draft of a circular letter, and also the institution as altered and amended, fairly engrossed and corrected.

The draft of the circular letter being read, and fully considered, paragraph by paragraph, the same was unanimously approved, and is as follows, viz.:

CIRCULAR.

"To the State Society of the Cincinnati in —— :

"**GENTLEMEN**:—We, the delegates of the Cincinnati, after the most mature and deliberate discussion of the principles and objects of our Society, have thought proper to recommend that the enclosed 'Institution of the Society of the Cincinnati, as altered and amended at their first meeting,' should be adopted by your State Society.

"In order that our conduct on this occasion may stand approved in the eyes of the world; that we may not incur the imputation of obstinacy on the one hand, or levity on the other, and that you may be induced more cheerfully to comply with our recommendation, we beg leave to communicate the reasons on which we have acted.

"Previous to our laying them before you, we hold it a duty to ourselves and our fellow-citizens to declare (and we call Heaven to witness the

veracity of our declaration), that in our whole agency on this subject we have been actuated by the purest principles.

" Notwithstanding we are thus conscious for ourselves of the rectitude of our intentions in instituting or becoming members of this Fraternity ; and notwithstanding we are confident the highest evidence can be produced from your past, and will be given by your future behavior, that you could not have been influenced by any other motives than those of friendship, patriotism and benevolence ; yet, as our designs in some respects have been misapprehended, as the instrument of our association was of necessity drawn up in a hasty manner, at an epoch as extraordinary as it will be memorable in the annals of mankind, when the mind, agitated by a variety of emotions, was not at liberty to attend minutely to every circumstance which respected our social connection, or to digest our ideas in so correct a form as could have been wished ; as the original institution appeared, in the opinion of many respectable characters, to have comprehended objects incompatible with the genius and spirit of the confederation ; and as in this case it would eventually frustrate our purposes and be productive of consequences which we had not foreseen. Therefore, to remove every cause of inquietude, to annihilate every source of jealousy, to designate explicitly the ground on which we wish to stand, and give one more proof that the late officers of the American Army have a claim to be reckoned among the most faithful citizens, we have agreed that the following material alterations and amendments should take place :

" That the hereditary succession should be abolished ; that all interference with political subjects should be done away ; and that the funds should be placed under the immediate cognizance of the several legislatures, who should also be requested to grant charters for more effectually carrying our humane designs into execution.

" In giving our reason for the alteration in the first article, we must ask your indulgence while we recall your attention to the original occasion which induced us to form ourselves into a society of friends.

" Having lived in the strictest habits of amity through the various stages of war unparalleled in many of its circumstances ; having seen the objects for which we contended happily attained ; in the moment of triumph and separation, when we were about to act the last pleasing melancholy scene in our military drama—pleasing, because we were to leave our country possessed of independence and peace ; melancholy, because we were to part, perhaps never to meet again ;—while every breast was penetrated with feelings which can be more easily conceived than described ; while every little act of tenderness recurred fresh to the recollection, it was impossible not to wish our friendship should be continued ; it was extremely natural to desire that they might be perpetuated by our posterity to the remotest ages. With these impressions and with such sentiments we candidly confess we signed the institution. We know our motives were irreproachable. But finding it apprehended by many of our countrymen that

this would be drawing an unjustifiable line of discrimination between our descendants and the rest of the community, and averse to the creation of unnecessary and unpleasing distinctions, we could not hesitate to relinquish every thing but our personal friendships, of which we cannot be divested, and those acts of beneficence which it is our intention should flow from them.

"With views equally pure and disinterested we proposed to use our collective influence in support of that government and confirmation of that union, the establishment of which has engaged so considerable part of our lives; but learning, from a variety of information, that this is deemed an officious and improper interference, and that if we are not charged with having sinister designs, yet we are accused of arrogating too much and assuming the guardianship of the liberties of our country;—thus circumstanced we could not think of opposing ourselves to the concurring opinions of our fellow-citizens, however founded, or of giving anxiety to those whose happiness it is our interest and duty to promote.

"We come next to speak to the charitable part of our institution, which we esteem the basis of it. By placing your fund in the hands of the legislature of your State and letting them see the application is to the best purposes, you will demonstrate the integrity of your actions as well as the rectitude of your principles. And having convinced them your intentions are only of a friendly and benevolent nature, we are induced to believe they will patronize a design which they cannot but approve; that they will foster the good disposition and encourage the beneficent acts of those who are disposed to make use of the most effectual and most unexceptional mode of relieving the distressed. For this purpose it is to be hoped that charters may be obtained in consequence of the applications which are directed to be made.

"It is also judged most proper that the admission of members should be submitted to the regulation of such charters; because, by thus acting in conformity to the sentiments of government, we not only give another instance of our reliance upon it, but of our disposition to remove every source of uneasiness respecting our Society.

"We trust it has not escaped our attention, gentlemen, that the only objects of which we are desirous to preserve the remembrance, are of such a nature as cannot be displeasing to our countrymen or unprofitable to posterity. We have retained accordingly those devises which recognize the manner of our returning to our citizenship, not as ostentatious marks of our discrimination, but as pledges of our friendship and emblems whose appearance will never permit us to deviate from the paths of virtue.

"And we presume in this place it may not be inexpedient to inform that these are considered as the most endearing tokens of friendship, and held in the highest estimation by such of our allies as have become entitled to them by having contributed their personal services to the establishment

of our independence; that these gentlemen, who are among the first in rank and reputation, have been permitted by their sovereign to hold this grateful memorial of our reciprocal affections, and that this fraternal intercourse is viewed by that illustrious monarch and other distinguished characters as no small additional cement to that harmony and reciprocation of good offices which so happily prevail between the two nations.

"Having now relinquished whatever has been found objectionable in our original institution, having by the deference thus paid to the prevailing sentiments of the community, neither as we conceive, lessened the dignity nor diminished the consistency of character which it is our ambition to support in the eyes of the present as well as future generations; having thus removed every possible objection to our remaining connected as a Society and cherishing our mutual friendships to the close of life, and having, as we flatter ourselves, retained in its utmost latitude, and placed upon a more certain and permanent foundation that primary article of our association which respects the unfortunate—on these two great original pillars, friendship and charity, we rest our institution, and we appeal to your liberality, patroitism and magnanimity, to your conduct on every other occasion, as well as to the purity of your intentions on the present, for the *ratification of our proceedings*; at the same time we are happy in expressing a full confidence in the candor, justice and integrity of the public that the institution as now altered and amended will be perfectly satisfactory, and that acts of legislative authority will soon be passed to give efficacy to your benevolence.

"Before we conclude the address, permit us to add that the cultivation of that amity we profess, and the extension of this charity, we flatter ourselves will be objects of sufficient importance to prevent a relaxation in the prosecution of them to diffuse comfort and support to any of our unfortunate companions who have seen better days, and merited a milder fate; to wipe the tear from the eye of the widow, who must have been consigned, with her hapless infants, to indigence and wretchedness but for this charitable institution; to succor the fatherless; to rescue the female orphan from destruction; to enable the son to emulate the virtues of his father, will be no unpleasing task. It will communicate happiness to others, while it increases our own; it will cheer our solitary reflections, and soothe our latest moments. Let us, then, prosecute with ardor what we have instituted in sincerity; let Heaven and our consciences approve our conduct; let our actions be the best comment on our words, and let us leave a lesson to posterity that the glory of soldiers cannot be completed without acting well the part of citizens.

"Signed by order:

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"Philadelphia, May 15th, 1784."

Resolved, That the president be desired to sign and forward a copy of the same to every State Society.

A draft of a letter to Baron Vioménil, of one to Brigadier General de Bougainville, and another to Brigadier General Armand, were read, approved and ordered to be transcribed, and the transcripts to be signed and transmitted by the president.

A committee of two were appointed to superintend the printing and publishing in pamphlets the circular letter to the State Societies, together with the institution as altered and amended. The members chosen were Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Turner.

Ordered, That the same gentlemen cause the circular letter to be inserted in public newspaper next published.

Pursuant to the order of the day, proceeded to ballot for officers of the General Society to serve the ensuing term, when General Washington was unanimously chosen president; Major General Gates, vice-president; Major-General Knox, secretary; Brigadier General Williams, assistant secretary.

Adjourned till Monday morning next, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 17th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Received and read a letter from Major General Horatio Gates signifying his grateful acceptance of the office of vice-president of the Society of Cincinnati.

Resolved, That Monsieur de Tarlé, Intendent and second officer of the French Auxiliary Army, and the Chevalier de Lameth, Colonel by brevet, also the Count de Sainneville, the Count de la Touche-Tréville, the Count de Kergariou Loc Maria, the Chevalier de l'Eguille, the Chevalier DuQuesne, the Count de la Prévalaye, the Chevalier de Colbert Maulevrier, the Chevalier de Vallongue, the Count de Capellis, and the Chevalier de la Pérouse, Captains and Commanders of ships and frigates of the French Navy, who were employed on special service on the coast of America, and are particularly named and recommended to the Society by His Excellency the Minister of France, are entitled by the spirit and intention of the Institution to become members of the Cincinnati.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this general meeting that Lieutenant Colonel de Bouchet is entitled, from his services, to be admitted a member of the Cincinnati, and he is hereby admitted accordingly.

Drafts of letters to the Chevalier de la Luzerne, the Count de Rochambeau, the Count de Barras, the Count d'Estaing, and the Marquis de la Fayette were severally read and approved, and the same ordered to be transcribed, the transcripts to be signed and forwarded by the President.

A draft of a letter to the senior land and naval officers and other members of the Society of the Cincinnati in France was read and approved, and a transcript thereof ordered to be signed and transmitted by the president.

The committee for preparing a form for the diploma reported, and the following was approved as the form, viz.:

Be it Known, That _____ is a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, instituted by the Officers of the American Army at the period of its dissolution, as well as to commemorate the great event which gave Independence to North America, as for the laudable purpose of inculcating the duty of laying down in peace arms assumed for public defence, and of uniting in acts of brotherly affection, and bonds of perpetual friendship, the members constituting the same.

In Testimony Whereof, I, the President of the said Society, have hereunto set my hand, at _____, in the State of _____, this _____ day of _____, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and _____, and in the _____ year of the Independence of the United States.

By order,

_____ President.

_____ Secretary.

Major l'Enfant having produced his account for his agency in France:

Ordered, That a draught be given on Major General McDougall, late treasurer-general of the Society, for the sum of six hundred and thirty dollars to be paid to Major l'Enfant as the balance of his account.

On motion, Major Turner and Captain Claypoole were appointed a committee to superintend the execution of engraving, on copper, the form agreed upon for a diploma.

Resolved, That the thanks of this general meeting be presented to Major l'Enfant, for his great care and attention in the execution of the business of this Society which was committed to him and transacted in France.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to receive and correct the proceedings of this meeting, and to report the extracts necessary to be sent to the Society in France and the several State societies.

The members chosen were Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Williams and Mr. Heth.

Ordered, That the committee for superintending the execution of the diploma plate, do, when the same is ready, deliver it into the hands of the secretary or the assistant secretary, to be placed in the archives of the Society.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 18th.

Met according to adjournment.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the respective State meetings to procure, as soon as convenient, two engrossed copies on parchment of the institution, as altered and amended by their general meeting, which shall be signed in the same manner as the original institution was directed to be done, one of which copies to be delivered to the secretary or the assistant secretary, to be kept among the records of the General Society, the other to be retained by the secretary of the State meeting.

Adjourned *sine die*.

1787

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CINCINNATI,
BY THEIR DELEGATES
IN GENERAL MEETING CONVENED, BEGUN AND HOLDEN
AT PHILADELPHIA,
ON
MONDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF MAY, A. D. 1787;
AND CONTINUED BY ADJOURNMENTS TILL THE 19TH FOLLOWING,
BEING THEIR SECOND GENERAL MEETING.

Monday, May 7th.

The delegates assembled not being a quorum adjourned from day to day till

Saturday, May 12th,

when eight States assembled, viz.:

Massachusetts :

Doctor William Eustis,
Maj. Gen. Henry Knox,
Maj. William North.

Rhode Island :

Brig. Gen. James Mitchell
Varnum,
The Rev. Enos Hitchcock.

Connecticut :

Col. David Humphreys.

New Jersey :

Capt. Jonathan Dayton,
General David Foreman.

Pennsylvania :

Maj. Gen. Thos. Mifflin,
Major William Jackson.

Delaware :

Doctor James Tilton,
Major James Moore,
Major Daniel Jenifer
Adams.

North Carolina :

Major Robert Fenner.

South Carolina :

Major George Turner,
Major Richard Brooke
Roberts.

Proceeded to the election of a chairman and secretary *pro tem.* by ballot, and chose Major General Mifflin, chairman; Major Turner, secretary, *pro tem.*

Credentials of and instructions to the delegates of several States were produced, read and filed as underwritten, viz.:

New Hampshire :

Hon. Nicholas Gilman, Esq.

Massachusetts :

Maj. Gen. Rufus Putnam,
Lieut. Col. Nathan Rice,
Doctor William Eustis,
Maj. Gen. Henry Knox,
Brig. Gen. H. Jackson,
Major William North,
Colonel Cobb.

(Any three to be a representation).

Rhode Island :

Brigadier General James
Mitchell Varnum,
Rev. Enos Hitchcock.

Connecticut :

Maj. Gen. Samuel Holden
Parsons,
Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth,
Col. David Humphreys,
Lieutenant Pomeroy,
Doctor Ezra Stiles.

New Jersey :

Captain Jonathan Dayton,
Elias Boudinot, Esq.,
Hon. Col. David Brearley,
Joseph Bloomfield, Esq.,
General David Foreman.

Pennsylvania :

Maj. Gen. Thos. Mifflin,
Brig. Gen. John Armstrong, Jr.,
Col. Francis Johnston,
Major William Jackson,
Hon. Thomas McKean.

Delaware :

Doctor James Tilton,
Major James Moore,
Captain William Mc-
Kenna,
Maj. Nathaniel Mitchell,
Major Daniel Jenifer
Adams.

North Carolina :

Major Reading Blount,
Colonel William Polk,
Major Robert Fenner.

South Carolina :

Major George Turner,
Major Richard Brooke
Roberts,
Brig. Gen. Charles Cotes-
worth Pinckney.

Appointed, a committee to prepare rules and regulations for conducting the business of the general meeting. Members—Brigadier General Varnum, Major Jackson, Doctor Tilton.

Read the minutes of the last general meeting; read a letter presented by General Knox, as secretary-general of the Society, from Major l'Enfant, and a memorial accompanying the same, requesting reimbursement

of certain sums alleged to have been expended by the Major on account of the Cincinnati. Referred to General Knox, Major Fenner, General Foreman, committee appointed.

The secretary-general laid also the following papers before the meeting:

A letter in French dated "Dominique Fevrier 13^e 1787," from the Count de Broglie to General Knox, recommending for admission as a member of the Cincinnati, the Baron de la Valletiere, General of the Armies of France, and commandant at Cape Francois, together with a letter dated Boston, 20th April, 1787, from James Perkins, Jr., enclosing the foregoing and recommendatory of the Baron.

A return of ninety-one members composing the Society of the Cincinnati in South Carolina.

A letter from the Cincinnati in New Hampshire to General Washington, as president-general, dated Exeter, April 16th, 1787, enclosing their circular letter of February 3d, 1785—both read.

Adjourned till Monday morning, the 14th instant, to meet at Carpenter's Hall, at nine o'clock.

Monday, May 14th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Present, seven States, viz.:

Massachusetts :

Doctor Eustis,
General Knox,
Major North.

Delaware :

Doctor Tilton,
Major Moore,
Major Adams.

Rhode Island :

General Varnum,
The Rev. Mr. Hitchcock.

North Carolina :

Major Fenner.

Connecticut :

Colonel Humphreys.

Pennsylvania :

General Mifflin,
Major Jackson,
Colonel Johnston.

South Carolina :

Major Turner,
Major Roberts.

Read the proceedings of Saturday.

The committee for preparing rules and regulations for conducting the business of the general meeting reported, that

"1st. When *seven* or more States assemble for business, the members shall come to order by taking their *seats*, and no one shall leave the room

until the meeting is adjourned *without permission* from the president or chairman.

" 2d. *The order of business* shall be to read the journals, if any, of the preceding day, then the despatches, then the reports of committees, and then the order of the day, which being completed, *other matters* be introduced.

" 3d. When *in session*, members shall not speak to one another, but rising, shall address themselves to the president or chairman *only*.

" 4th. *All motions*, except for adjourning the meeting from day to day, or for postponing the decision of a question, shall be made in *writing*.

" 5th. *No motion* shall be debated, nor any question be taken thereon, unless the same is *seconded*.

" 6th. All questions shall be decided by *a majority of State representations present, seven making a quorum*.

" 7th. *All officers and special committees* shall be appointed by *ballot*; but in *other matters* wherein the members are not agreed the States shall be called, and answer by the words *aye or no*.

" 8th. Upon a *motion of adjournment* from day to day the question shall be *put without debate*, and shall take place of *all other questions*.

" 9th. No member shall speak more than *once* until every other member who chooses, shall have spoken to the *same* question, nor shall any member speak oftener than *twice* in any case, unless for *explanation*, and then *without argument*.

" 10th. No member shall *interrupt* another while speaking, unless to call him to *order*.

" 11th. All motions in *writing* shall be open to *amendment, previously to putting the main question, and motions for postponing the whole or any part of a question, shall be first in order*.

" 12th. *Questions of order* shall be determined by the *president or chairman without debate*, but an *appeal* may be made to the meeting, in which case they shall immediately decide after permitting every one who chooses to speak *once*.

" 13th. In cases to which the preceding rules *do not apply*, the president or chairman shall conduct the proceedings according to his *best discretion*."

[Signed]

J. M. VARNUM, *Chairman.*

The same was taken up paragraph by paragraph, and unanimously agreed to.

The secretary-general laid before the meeting the following papers, which were read and filed, viz.:

Two letters from the Hon. I. P. Van Borkel, Minister from the United Netherlands, to General Knox, recommending for admission, Mr. Mandrillon of Amsterdam.

A letter from General Washington, stating the causes which may probably prevent his attending the present general meeting, accompanied with a bundle of papers which were committed to the secretary *pro tem.* to be indorsed and arranged previous to their being read.

A letter from Brigadier General O. H. Williams, apologizing for his non-attendance this meeting.

On motion, that a committee be appointed to devise a mode by which the foreign members of the Society may be furnished with diplomas, the members chosen were General Knox, General Varnum, Colonel Humphreys.

On motion, that on Wednesday next the general meeting, in a committee of the whole, go into the consideration of the Institution of the Society, and report such alterations and amendments as shall be thought necessary:

It was moved and seconded to postpone the consideration, but passed in the negative.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 15th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Present, nine States:

Massachusetts :	Pennsylvania :
Doctor Eustis, Major General Knox, Major North.	General Mifflin, Colonel Johnston, Major Jackson.
Rhode Island :	Delaware :
General Varnum, Rev. Mr. Hitchcock.	Doctor Tilton, Major Moore, Major Adams.
Connecticut :	Virginia :
General Parsons, Colonel Humphreys.	Col. Edward Carrington.
New Jersey :	North Carolina :
Mr. Boudinot, Colonel Brearley.	Major Fenner.
	South Carolina :
	Major Roberts, Major Turner.

Read the minutes of yesterday.

The secretary *pro tem.*, having arranged the papers committed to his charge yesterday, laid them before the meeting. Such of them as are in French were committed for translation to Major Roberts, Colonel Humphreys and Major Jackson, being a committee appointed for translating all papers in that language received or to be received by the present meeting.

Read a letter, dated Boston, April 25th, 1787, from Major General Lincoln to the general meeting, strongly recommending the Baron de la Valletiere for admission.

Read an extract from the "Encyclopedie Methodique" concerning the Cincinnati.

General Parsons was added to the committee on Major l'Enfant's memorial.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 16th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Present, nine States:

Massachusetts :	Pennsylvania .
Doctor Eustis, General Knox, Major North.	General Mifflin, Major Jackson, Colonel Johnston.
Rhode Island :	Delaware :
General Varnum, Rev. Mr. Hitchcock.	Major Moore, Dr. Tilton, Major Adams.
Connecticut :	Virginia :
General Parsons, Colonel Humphreys.	Colonel Carrington.
New Jersey :	North Carolina :
Colonel Brearley, General Foreman, Mr. Boudinot.	Major Fenner.
	South Carolina :
	Major Turner, Major Roberts.

Read the minutes of yesterday.

Major Jackson produced a circular letter, dated New York, November 1st, 1786, from the Cincinnati in that State to the Society in Philadelphia, which was read and filed.

Read and filed a letter, dated St. Eustatius, February 18th, 1786, from O'Reilly, Count de Bresny, to the secretary-general for admission into the order.

The order of the day being read, it was moved to postpone the consideration thereof, which passed in the affirmative.

It being moved to proceed to the immediate election of the officers of the General Society, a motion followed to postpone the election till the last day of sitting, and passed in the affirmative.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 17th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Present, nine States represented:

Massachusetts :	Pennsylvania :
General Knox, Major North, Doctor Eustis.	General Mifflin, Major Jackson.
Rhode Island :	Delaware :
General Varnum, Rev. Mr. Hitchcock.	Doctor Tilton, Major Moore.
Connecticut :	Virginia :
General Parsons.	Colonel Carrington.
New York :	North Carolina :
Col. Alex. Hamilton.	Major Fenner.
New Jersey :	South Carolina :
Colonel Brearley, Mr. Boudinot, Captain Dayton.	Major Turner, Major Roberts.

Read the minutes of yesterday.

Colonel Carrington produced his credentials and instructions, by which it appears that Edward Carrington, William Grayson and Gustavus B. Wallace, Esquires, are members elected to serve in the present general meeting from Virginia. The same were filed.

Colonel Hamilton took his seat. The credentials of his appointment had been accidentally left behind.

The committee for devising a mode by which the foreign members of the Society may be furnished with diplomas submitted the following

REPORT:

"That, in their opinion, it is incumbent on the general meeting to obtain immediately the diplomas for the foreign members of the Cincinnati.

"That a committee be appointed to procure one hundred and fifty blank diplomas, which shall be placed in the hands of the secretary-general.

"That as soon as the said secretary shall receive the names of the said foreign members he cause the same to be inserted in the number of diplomas necessary, which shall be completed with the signatures of the president and the said secretary.

"That the secretary transmit those designed for the marine officers of France to the Count d'Estaing, and those for the land officers to the Count de Rochambeau, senior officers of the naval and land forces of His Most Christian Majesty which co-operated with the armies of America during the late revolution.

"That the diplomas for the foreign officers who served in the armies of the United States be transmitted to the Marquis de la Fayette.

"That no blank diplomas be transmitted to any foreign members.

"That the expense of the said diplomas be defrayed by the State Societies, according to the number of members in each of those State Societies."

The same was agreed to.

On motion that a committee be appointed to fix and report the quota of each State Society, to operate as a rule for all apportionments which it may be necessary to make in the course of the meeting, the members chosen were Captain Dayton, Colonel Carrington and Colonel Hamilton.

On motion a resolution was submitted, and after amendments agreed to, as follows, viz.:

"The General Meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati, being impressed with a grateful sense of the important advantages which resulted to the American cause during the late war from the brilliant military services of His Excellency the Marquis de Bouillé, late Governor of Martenico, and commander-in-chief of His Most Christian Majesty's land forces in the West Indies; and being desirous of associating so illustrious a character to their institution,

"Resolved, That the president-general transmit instructions to the president or senior officer of the Society in France to offer to and invest the Marquis de Bouillé with the Order of the Cincinnati."

The following motion was submitted and made the order of the day for to-morrow, viz.:

"Whereas, several of the State Societies of the Cincinnati have not agreed to the alterations in the institution proposed at the last general meeting; and whereas, those alterations cannot take effect until they

have been agreed to by all the State Societies; and whereas, it appears to be the general sense of the said Societies that some alterations in the institution ought to be made; and whereas, in the opinion of this meeting, such alterations as may be necessary cannot conveniently and effectually be made but at a general meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati, specially authorized to agree upon and finally establish the same; therefore,

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the several State Societies to empower their delegates at the next general meeting to agree upon and finally establish all such alterations as may be necessary in the constitution of the Society."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 18th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Present, nine States represented:

Massachusetts:

Doctor Eustis,
Major North.

Rhode Island:

General Varnum,
Rev. Mr. Hitchcock.

Connecticut:

General Parsons,
Colonel Humphreys.

New York:

Colonel Hamilton.

New Jersey:

Colonel Brearley,
Mr. Boudinot,
Captain Dayton.

Pennsylvania:

General Mifflin,
Major Jackson.

Delaware:

Doctor Tilton,
Major Moore.
Maj. Nathaniel Mitchell.

Virginia:

Colonel Carrington.

North Carolina:

Major Fenner.

South Carolina:

Major Turner,
Major Roberts.

Read the minutes of yesterday.

Colonel Hamilton produced and filed his credentials and instructions, by which it appeared the following delegates were chosen to represent the State Society of New York, (any two of whom to be a representation) viz.:— The Honorable Major General Baron de Steuben, Colonel Alexander Hamilton, Major General Philip Schuyler, and William Duer, David Brooks and John Lawrence, Esquires. (Five only can sit per institution.)

The committee for translating French papers produced the following, with their translations:—

Triplicates of a letter, dated Claviac, near Bourdeaux, February 20th, 1784, (with enclosures) from the Count de Lilancour to the president-general for admission as a member into the Cincinnati.

A letter and memorial, dated Paris, August 31st, 1784, from Monsieur Vence, of the French navy, to Major General Lincoln, soliciting his interest with the Society to admit him as a member.

A letter and memorial, dated Amsterdam, the 24th of October, 1786, and another letter, of the 24th of January, 1787, from Mr. Mandrillon to the president-general, soliciting (*inter alia*) admission into the Society.

A letter, dated Brest, September 18th, 1786, from the Chevalier de Goyon du Vauronault, major in the navy of France, to His Excellency Benjamin Franklin, stating his pretensions and soliciting His Excellency's interest to procure him the order of the Cincinnati.

Ordered, That the following members be a committee to examine and report upon such applications for admission into the Society as now lie on the table: General Varnum, Colonel Hamilton, Colonel Humphreys.

Read a letter, dated Philadelphia, the 17th May instant, from Major l'Enfant to the secretary-general (chairman of the committee on his memorial) respecting his claims.

The committee to whom were referred the letters and memorial of Major Peter l'Enfant brought in the following

REPORT:

"That the object of the said letters and memorial is to bring fully into view his conduct and transactions respecting the Society of the Cincinnati and its members.

"That it appears from the said memorial and the evidence accompanying the same that Major l'Enfant made a tender of his services to the Society when he should arrive in France.

"That he was accordingly employed by the president-general to execute certain commissions, which were performed with great zeal, and for which the general meeting of 1784 presented him with their thanks.

"That the said general meeting gave Major l'Enfant an order on General McDougall, the late treasurer-general, for the balance of an account for eagles presented in France, which balance was stated at the sum of six hundred and forty dollars, but which, however, (besides its insufficiency to defray the charge of eight hundred and ninety-four dollars) was never paid by the treasurer-general.

"That the reason of drawing the order on the treasurer must have arisen from the probability of his possessing certain public securities subscribed by the foreign officers who served in the armies of the United States.

"That exclusive of the sum of eight hundred and ninety-four dollars (the amount of the eagles presented in France), Major l'Enfant requests the Society, for reasons contained in his memorial, to advance him the further sum of three thousand five hundred and sixty-four dollars, amounting in the whole to the sum of four thousand four hundred and fifty-eight dollars.

"That, should the Society think proper to comply with his request, he will transfer to the Society certain debts stated to due from its members, equal to eight hundred and ninety-six dollars; and also all the eagles on hand, equal in value to five hundred and seventy-two dollars, which sums, together with the sum of eight hundred and ninety-four dollars, the value of the eagles presented in France, will amount to the sum of two thousand three hundred and sixty-two dollars, for which the Society will receive a consideration.

"That he requests the loan of five hundred and fifty dollars, which he has been compelled to expend, in his maintenance, out of the sums received for the eagles sold in America; and

"That he requests that the Society would save him harmless from a loss incurred on the aggregate of his transactions, amounting to one thousand five hundred and forty-eight dollars. [This loss arises on the article of ribbon, short price of eagles and other causes not ascertained. The account herewith presented will afford a more connected view of the case of Major l'Enfant.]

"On this statement your committee beg leave to observe:—

"That in their opinion the debts incurred for the eagles presented in France is an obligation of the highest species of honor, and that the payment thereof cannot be delayed without deeply staining the reputation of the Society, especially as the Marquis de la Fayette has actually advanced the money to the artist who furnished the eagles, on learning that the reputation of the Society was greatly suffering from the protracted payment.

"That the transactions of Major l'Enfant being duly considered—the services he rendered the Society at his own expense;—the number of eagles he brought to America on the express purpose of accommodating, without profit, the Cincinnati; the difficulties which arose in the disposal of those eagles from the causes stated in the memorial; the debts still due and the embarrassments attending the same, and the refined, yet strong, obligations that the Society of the Cincinnati (constituted on the high principles of friendship and honor) should not suffer one of its members to be utterly ruined through an excess of zeal in its service—these considerations induce your committee to be of opinion that it is highly proper and expedient that this general meeting take every arrangement within its power to settle finally all the claims which Major l'Enfant can have either on the justice or generosity of the Society.

"The committee, therefore, submit the consideration of the propriety of writing to the Societies on whom Major l'Enfant states to have existing claims, to explain the nature of those, as far as may be necessary, and to request a speedy accommodation.

"That the eagles in possession of Major l'Enfant be taken on account of the General Society and be paid the full value thereof.

"That the loan requested by Major l'Enfant cannot be granted, as the General Society are utterly destitute of funds.

"That were there any funds of the general meeting, or monies at its disposal, your committee would, with less reluctance than they feel at present, report that the loss of fifteen hundred and forty-eight dollars should be made good to him, on the principle of generosity.

"That the committee, exceedingly anxious to prevent even the possibility of imputation against the honor and nobleness of sentiment of the Society, and influenced by these motives more than by any claim of justice or legality, submit the resolve on this point, and the other resolves herein stated :—

"Resolved, That the sum of eight hundred and ninety-four dollars be transmitted to the Marquis de la Fayette, being the amount of monies paid by him in France on account of the Society of the Cincinnati.

"Resolved, That the eagles, or orders of the Cincinnati, in the possession of Major l'Enfant, amounting in the whole to the sum of five hundred and seventy-two dollars, be taken on account of the General Society, and that he be paid the full value thereof.

"Resolved, That in consideration of the services rendered to the Society of the Cincinnati by Major l'Enfant the general meeting will make arrangements for advancing him the sum of fifteen hundred and forty-eight dollars, being the amount of loss incurred by him in the negotiation for a number of eagles or orders of the Cincinnati which he imported from France with the intention of accommodating the members of the said Society.

"All of which is submitted,

"H. KNOX,
"SAMUEL H. PARSONS,
"ROBERT FENNER, } Committee."

Whereupon,

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions submitted by the committee be accepted and agreed to.

The committee appointed to "fix and report the quota of each State Society to operate as a rule for all appointments which it may be necessary to make in the course of this meeting," reported, and thereupon it was

Resolved, That the following be the rule:—

For New Hampshire	as 35 to 1000 parts.
Massachusetts	" 150 " "
Rhode Island	" 21 " "
Connecticut	" 88 " "
New York	" 86 " "
New Jersey	" 50 " "
Pennsylvania	" 137 " "
Delaware	" 15 " "
Maryland	" 98 " "
Virginia	" 172 " "
North Carolina	" 73 " "
South Carolina	" 64 " "
Georgia	" 11 " "

The order of the day being read, after long debates, the preamble was expunged and the resolution only suffered to stand, as follows:—

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several State Societies to empower their delegates, at the next general meeting, to agree upon and finally establish all such alterations as may be necessary in the constitution of the Society.

Adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon.

May 18th (continued), P. M.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

The secretary *pro tem.* in the chair.

Present, nine States *represented* as in the morning, omitting General Mifflin, who was absent.

On motion,

Resolved, That the next general meeting be on the first Monday in May next, at Philadelphia, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or at such other place as the president of the Society shall appoint.

On motion,

Resolved, nem. con., That the right of admitting foreign officers (except such as are under the first and second sections of the general rules,) is vested in the general meeting, and that they are *sole judges* of such admissions.

On motion,

Resolved, That the secretary-general do write to the Society in South Carolina, on some of whose members Monsieur l'Enfant states to have existing claims, to explain the nature of those claims, and to request a speedy accommodation.

On motion, in addition to the resolves concluding the report of the committee on Major l'Enfant's memorial:

Resolved, That the said several sums, amounting together to the sum of three thousand and fourteen dollars to be paid to the secretary-general of this Society by the State Societies on or before the first day of September next, and that the same be quoted agreeably to the rule of apportionment agreed upon at this present meeting.

On motion,

Resolved, That the assistant secretary-general do dispose of the eagles which may be received from Major l'Enfant, and account for the proceeds thereof with the secretary-general.

Proceeded to ballot for officers of the General Society.

The following were elected :

General Washington, president-general.

Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president-general (*vice* General Gates).

Major General Henry Knox, secretary-general.

Major George Turner, assistant secretary-general (*vice* General Otto H. Williams).

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait on His Excellency, General Washington, to inform him that the General Society have unanimously re-elected him their president.

The members chosen were General Knox, Colonel Hamilton and Mr. Boudinot.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 19th.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

General Mifflin resumed the chair.

Present, eight States represented:

Massachusetts :	Pennsylvania :
General Knox,	General Mifflin.
Major North,	Colonel Johnston.
Doctor Eustis.	Major Jackson.
Rhode Island :	Delaware :
General Varnum.	Major Moore.
Connecticut :	Virginia :
Colonel Humphreys.	Colonel Carrington.
New York :	North Carolina :
Colonel Hamilton.	Major Fenner.
New Jersey :	South Carolina :
Colonel Brearley.	Major Turner.
Mr. Boudinot.	Major Roberts.

Read the minutes of yesterday.

Resolved, That the secretary-general write answers to all such letters as may require attention, and concerning which no order has been taken, and that the assistant secretary-general write circular letters to the State Societies inclosing transcripts of the proceedings of the present meeting.

Resolved, unanimously, That the several officers chosen by this Society shall hold their offices until the last day of the next general meeting, unless others shall be duly elected in their room.

Resolved, That the secretary-general inform Mr. Mandrillon that, by the rules of the Society, he cannot be admitted as a member into their order, but that they are fully sensible of his zealous attachment to the interests of the United States and the honor of their institution.

Resolved, That the consideration of all other applications for admission be postponed till the next general meeting.

Resolved, That the expense attending the procuration of one hundred and fifty diplomas for the foreign members be added to the expenses necessarily attending this meeting, that the whole be apportioned to the different States, and that the States present pay immediately their proportions.

Ordered, That the several State Societies be punctual hereafter in communicating to each general meeting fair and accurate returns of their respective members, properly authenticated, and that the said Societies do in all things strictly conform to the principles of the Institution.

The General Meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest:

G. TURNER,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1788

AT AN

EXTRA GENERAL MEETING OF THE CINCINNATI

ORDERED TO BE CONVENED AT PHILADELPHIA

ON MONDAY THE FIFTH DAY OF MAY, A. D. 1788;

BEING THE FIRST EXTRA MEETING.

Present: The vice-president and assistant secretary-general.

Adjourned till to-morrow ten o'clock, A. M.

Tuesday, May 6th.

Present:—The officers above named, the secretary-general, and the following delegates:

From Massachusetts: Hon. Major General Knox, S. G. C.

Rhode Island: Colonel Jeremiah Olney.

New Jersey: Major Joseph Bloomfield.

Adjourned, there not being a quorum, till to-morrow ten o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, May 7th.

Present:

From Massachusetts: General Knox.

Rhode Island: Colonel Olney.

New Jersey: Colonel David Brearley,
Major Bloomfield.

Pennsylvania: Hon. Major General Mifflin,
Major Wm. Jackson.

Delaware: Major James Moore.

Adjourned, there not being a quorum, till to-morrow nine o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, May 8th.

Present:

From Massachusetts :	Major General Knox.
Rhode Island :	Colonel Olney.
New York :	Colonel Morgan Lewis.
New Jersey :	Colonel Brearley, Major Bloomfield.
Pennsylvania :	Major General Mifflin, Hon. Thomas McKean, Major Jackson, Colonel Francis Johnston.
Delaware :	Major James Moore.

Thus only five States were fully represented, according to the credentials of their delegates, and there being no prospect of obtaining a competent number of representations at this meeting, it was unanimously agreed to receive on the files, for the consideration of the next general meeting, all such papers and communications as had been either written or received during the recess. The following papers were, in consequence, placed on the files, viz.:

Instructions to delegates appointed in Massachusetts to the present meeting, but no credentials were produced.

Credentials of delegates appointed in Rhode Island (any one or two of whom to be a representation), namely: General Varnum, The Reverend Mr. Hitchcock, Colonel J. Olney, Major J. S. Dexter and Colonel Sherburne, accompanied with a power authorizing the delegate or delegates attending this meeting from the State Society there, to "agree upon, and finally establish all such alterations as may be necessary in the constitution of the General Society."

Credentials of delegates appointed in New York, namely: Morgan Lewis, Esq., together with the Hon. Major General Baron de Steuben, Robert R. Livingston, Alexander Hamilton, William Duer, James Miles Hughes, and Benjamin Walker, Esquires, any two of whom to be a quorum or sufficient representation.

Credentials of and instructions to delegates appointed in New Jersey, namely: The Hon. David Brearley, General David Foreman, Captain Jonathan Dayton, General Matthias Ogden, and Major Joseph Bloomfield, any one or more of whom are empowered to agree upon, and finally establish all such alterations as may be necessary in the constitution of the General Society.

Credentials appointing delegates from Pennsylvania, namely: The Honorable Thomas McKean and William Jackson, John Armstrong, Jr., Peter Muhlenberg, and Francis Johnston, Esquires.

Credentials appointing delegates from Delaware, namely: Major John Patten, Major James Moore, and Captain William McKennan, one of whom to be a representation.

The following returns of members were likewise produced:

	Total.
Cincinnati of Rhode Island,	61
Cincinnati of New York,	181
Cincinnati of New Jersey,	82
Cincinnati of Pennsylvania,	—
Cincinnati of Delaware,	27

A variety of other papers and communications were produced and filed, together with the foregoing, for the inspection and order of a subsequent general meeting.

The delegates present were then informed by the assistant secretary-general that the eagles intrusted to his care for sale by the last general meeting, remained yet unsold, owing, he presumed to the high price which had been fixed on them, whereupon, the delegates were unanimously of opinion that a reduction in the price was become both expedient and proper, and it was, in consequence, agreed that twenty dollars only (and not six and twenty), should in future be demanded for each eagle.

The following circular letter was next prepared, approved of and signed by all the officers and members present, and was directed to be transmitted to the president-general and the several State Societies in America.

CIRCULAR.

"SIR:—The General Society having last year directed an extra meeting to be held on the first Monday of the present month, we are assembled here in consequence; but although the important object of the now intended meeting requires a *full* representation, we observe with regret, that we have not even a quorum, the subscribers being the only members present. All matters, therefore, before the General Society, must of necessity be postponed until the triennial general meeting, two years hence, unless the president-general may think it proper, in the meantime, to call an extra meeting. In either case, we hope that the establishing a permanent constitution, which requires an *unanimous vote* of the representation of *all* the State Societies, will excite in each an emulation to have its delegates on the floor among the foremost.

"The considerations which induced the last general meeting to admit the claims exhibited by Major l'Enfant against the Society, still existing in full force, and the honor of the Society being pledged for the payment of the money, we cannot avoid expressing our earnest wish that the final settlement of this business may sustain no further delay, and that the several State Societies who have not yet complied with the requisition, would immediately take measures for remitting their quotas, as directed in the resolution of the General Society.

"We have the honor to be, sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servants,

"THOMAS MIFFLIN,

Vice-President-General.

"H. KNOX, Massachusetts.

"JEREH. OLNEY, Rhode Island.

"MORN. LEWIS, New York.

"DAVID BREARLEY, } New Jersey.

"J. BLOOMFIELD, }

"THO. McKEAN,

"W. JACKSON, } Pennsylvania.

"FRA. JOHNSTON, }

"JAMES MOORE, Delaware."

Attest:

G. TURNER,

Assistant Secretary-General Cincinnati.

Adjourned *sine die*.

1790

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRIENNIAL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE CINCINNATI,
HELD IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
ON THE FIRST MONDAY IN MAY, 1790.

Present:—Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president-general; Major General Henry Knox, secretary-general.

Members:

From Massachusetts:	Major General Henry Knox.
Connecticut:	Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth, Colonel David Humphreys.
Pennsylvania:	Honorable Thomas McKean, Colonel Francis Johnston, Major Thomas L. Moore, Major Matthew McConnell, Major William Macpherson.
Delaware:	Major John Patten.
North Carolina:	Colonel Benjamin Hawkins.
Georgia:	Colonel James Gunn, General George Matthews.

Six Societies only being represented, adjourned until to-morrow, eight o'clock

Tuesday, May 4th, 1790.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, excepting Colonel Hawkins and Major Macpherson.

Colonel William S. Smith and General Matthew Clarkson, delegates from New York, and Captain Jonathan Dayton, a delegate from New Jersey, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats.

Seven Societies being now represented, the general meeting proceeded to business.

On the memorial of Major l'Enfant,

Resolved, That the secretary-general write to the several State Societies which have not paid their quotas in the case of Major l'Enfant, and urge an immediate payment in the manner pointed out by the resolve of the general meeting of the 18th day of May, 1787.

Resolved, That any interest arising on the protracted payment of the quotas of the State Societies in the case of Major l'Enfant cannot be granted.

Resolved, That the general meeting cannot take further measures respecting the claims which Major l'Enfant may have upon individuals.

Resolved, That the secretary-general write to the Marquis de la Fayette and give him a detail of the measures taken by the Society respecting the claims of Major l'Enfant.

Resolved, That all the claims of French gentlemen now before the general meeting for admission as members be referred to the Count d'Estaing, the Count de Rochambeau and the Marquis de la Fayette; that the secretary-general write a letter to the said gentlemen, and inform them that the general meeting confide the honor of the Society to their keeping, as it respects the said claims, trusting that they will decide thereon according to the principles of the institution and the spirit of the French government; that, on one or more of the said gentlemen duly certifying, under his or their hands and seals, that any of the persons whose claims are now referred have passed the necessary investigations and approbation in France, the secretary-general will transmit the diplomas accordingly.

Resolved, That an extra general meeting be held in the city of Philadelphia on the first Monday in May, 1791.

Resolved, That it be recommended to and strongly enjoined upon the several State Societies to empower their delegates at the next general meeting to agree upon and finally establish all such alterations as may be thought necessary in the constitution, and to adopt and carry into execution such measures as may conduce to the security of the funds and to the promotion of the general interest of the Society.

The general meeting then proceeded to the election of officers of the Society for the ensuing three years, and, upon counting the votes, it appeared that the following persons were unanimously chosen, viz.:

His Excellency George Washington, Esq. (late commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States), president-general.

Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president-general.

Major General Henry Knox, secretary-general.

Major William Macpherson, assistant secretary-general.

The draft of the following address to the President of the United States was read, paragraph by paragraph, and accepted:

"SIR:—We, the delegates of the State Societies of the Cincinnati assembled at our triennial general meeting, congratulate you on being unanimously elected the head of our rising republic.

"As a part of the community, we felicitate our countrymen on this happy event, and we embrace the first opportunity of expressing our sentiments, with no less zeal than sincerity.

"When we say we love and revere you as a father, we not only speak the language of our own hearts, but we speak the language of all who have fought, suffered and conquered under your command. Were poverty and consciousness of duty our only recompense, still should we glory in the part we have acted; for our motives, as they regarded our country, will afford us satisfaction as well through the vicissitudes of life as in the moment of dissolution. As members of our institution, on a former occasion, we appealed to Heaven and our own hearts for the purity of our intentions. Our fellow-citizens will witness that the conduct of the officers and soldiers of the late American armies has not been less patriotic in peace than it was glorious in war.

"A good constitution was the object for which we risked our lives and experienced unparalleled difficulties. We are happy in the conviction that our views are answered in the present government of the United States. While we applaud the wisdom of our countrymen in placing you at the head of it, we pledge ourselves to support its administration with the remnants of lives long since devoted to the public service. We need not enumerate your titles to the gratitude of your country, or echo, in the suffrages of our particular constituents, the public sentiment. But we may say that we see, with exultation, our countrymen beginning to reap the fruits of independence under the auspices of the person who was more instrumental than any other in its establishment. May you, as a reward for your services, enjoy length of days and every temporal blessing, and may such blessings be a prelude to everlasting felicity."

Resolved, That the foregoing address be presented to the President of the United States by a committee of nine members, to wit:

General Knox,	General Matthews,	Colonel Gunn,
Colonel Hawkins,	Captain Dayton,	Colonel Smith,
General Clarkson,	Colonel Wadsworth,	Colonel Humphreys.

Resolved, That the same committee inform the president-general of his election for the ensuing three years.

Resolved, That the following circular letter be transmitted to the several State Societies by the secretary-general.

"To the State Societies of the Cincinnati:

"**GENTLEMEN**:—Having made choice of all our officers for the three ensuing years, as will appear by the enclosed certified lists, and having completed all the business before us, we could not, however, separate without addressing you on the situation and prospect of the affairs of the United States.

"With hearts filled with love to our native climes and gratitude to the Author of every good gift who has cast our lot in such pleasant places, we rejoice that our countrymen are rapidly recovering from the calamities occasioned by the late war, and that they are at last favored with a government which will probably secure to them the enjoyment of all the benefits they had a right to expect from the revolution. Already we perceive that agriculture, commerce, manufactures, private happiness and public prosperity increase in a wonderful manner under the auspicious influence of this government, and from a view of all the circumstances we are justified in a belief that our prospect of felicity is as fair as that of any nation under Heaven.

"While we recall to mind that you were the chiefs of that glorious band of heroes who merited and obtained the distinguished appellation of the Patriot Army, we feel all the endearments of our former connection recur with redoubled force. The world considered that character as the best guarantee for your future conduct, nor has your conduct at any time deceived the most sanguine expectations of the friends of freedom.

"The general tenor of your behavior since the war, and particularly during the period in which the present government was formed and established, has been so perfectly unexceptionable and so entirely consonant to your profession as to entitle you to the universal approbation of your fellow-citizens.

"It gives us inexpressible pleasure to find that the unreasonable and illiberal clamor, which at one moment had been excited against our institution, has totally subsided.

"The accounts which we annually see from all parts of the continent of the manner in which you celebrate the Declaration of Independence on the fourth day of July, the day fixed for your State meeting, afford us also great satisfaction. The reasons for the recognition of that festival are so obvious and important that we hope you will ever continue to consider that day as a day of thanksgiving.

"We presume not to give you any advice for the regulation of the internal concerns of your societies, but we are persuaded that you will do good to all men whosoever and wheresoever opportunities will permit; and particularly that you will, to the utmost of your ability, alleviate the penury and distresses of those who have borne with you the burden of the war, as many instances have already occurred of widows, orphans, and unfortunate members of your societies who claim and receive support

from your beneficence, it behoves you to place your funds upon the best possible footing to accomplish the truly benevolent and fraternal purposes for which they were intended ; since it is but too justly to be apprehended that the number of persons who will be entitled to your assistance will rather increase than diminish.

" We most ardently desire that the character of the Cincinnati may continue to be respected in consequence of their completing the glory of soldiers by acting well the part of citizens. With this object in view we doubt not that you will assiduously cultivate all the virtues of peaceable and patriotic citizens, especially industry, frugality, honesty, and a fixed determination to support the government of your country.

" It is necessary for the ulterior arrangements of our Society at large that you should transmit to our secretary-general accurate returns of the persons composing your State Societies as soon as they can be conveniently completed.

" We forward to you by this conveyance the copy of an address which we presented to the President of the United States, together with his answer. It now only remains for us to commend you to the holy keeping of Almighty God, and to wish you every blessing which your own hearts can desire."

The general meeting then adjourned to meet again on the first Monday in May, 1791.

The following is the answer of the President of the United States :

" To the delegates of the State Societies of the Cincinnati lately assembled at their Triennial meeting :

" GENTLEMEN.—Although it is easier for you to conceive than for me to explain the pleasing sensations which have been excited in my breast by your congratulations on my appointment to the head of this rising republic, yet I must take the liberty to thank you sincerely for the polite manner in which you felicitate our countrymen, and testify your regard to me on this occasion.

" In addition to that reward for your sufferings and services which arises from the consciousness of having done your duty, you have erected monuments more expressive of your merits than even the universal applause of your country in the establishment of its independence and sovereignty, nor should any possible circumstances of poverty or adversity compel you to give up that sweet satisfaction for the part you have acted, which ought to attend you as well through the vicissitudes of life as in the moment of dissolution.

" The candor of your fellow-citizens acknowledges the patriotism of your conduct in peace, as their gratitude has declared their obligations for your fortitude and perseverance in war. A knowledge that they now do justice to the purity of your intentions ought to be your highest consolation, as the fact is demonstrative of your greatest glory.

"The object for which your gallantry encountered every danger, and your virtue sustained unparalleled difficulties, has happily been attained. A government, promising protection and prosperity to the people of the United States, is established, and its operations hitherto have been such as to justify the most sanguine expectations of further success. It was naturally to be expected that lives which had long since been devoted on the altar of freedom could never be offered at the shrine of anarchy and despotism. And the offer which you make of the residue of those lives to support the administration of this government is not less a proof of its excellence than an encouragement for those concerned in its execution to use their best endeavors to make it a source of extensive and permanent blessings to their country.

"Whatever titles my military services may have given me to the regard of my country, they are principally corroborated by the firm support of my brave and faithful associates in the field; and if any consideration is to be attributed to the successful exercise of my civil duties, it proceeds, in a great measure, from the wisdom of the laws, and the facility which the disposition of my fellow-citizens has given to their administration.

"To the most affectionate wishes for your temporal happiness, I add a fervent prayer for your eternal felicity.

"G. WASHINGTON."

1791

THE PROCEEDINGS
OF AN
EXTRA GENERAL MEETING OF THE CINCINNATI,
HELD IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,
ON MONDAY THE SECOND DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR 1791,
IN PURSUANCE OF A RESOLVE OF THE TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING
PASSED ON THE FOURTH DAY OF MAY, 1790.

Present, as representatives of the several State Societies hereinafter mentioned, to wit:—

From Massachusetts:	Major General Knox.
Connecticut:	Brigadier General Wyllis.
New York:	Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence, Captain Watson.
Pennsylvania:	Brigadier General Stewart.
Delaware:	Major Patten, Major McKennan.
Maryland:	Lieutenant Colonel Howard, Major Davidson.
Virginia:	Major General Weedon, Colonel Davis.

Seven State Societies, or a majority of the whole, being represented, and the president and vice-president being absent, Major General Knox was elected chairman.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the chairman to receive and examine the credentials of the respective delegates; whereupon, Captain Watson, Major Patten and Major McKennan were appointed accordingly.

On motion, the meeting adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

Tuesday, May 3d.

The general meeting met according to adjournment.
Present:

From Massachusetts :	Major General Knox, Lieutenant Colonel Hull.
Connecticut :	Brigadier General Wyllis, Lieutenant Colonel Talmadge.
Rhode Island :	Major Dexter.
New York :	Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence, Captain Watson.
New Jersey :	Major Bloomfield, Captain Dayton.
Pennsylvania :	Brigadier General Stewart, The Honorable Thomas McKean.
Delaware :	Major McKennan, Doctor Tilton.
Maryland :	Lieutenant Colonel Howard, Major Davidson.
Virginia :	Major General Weedon, Colonel Davis.

On motion,

Resolved, That the secretary-general address a letter to the several State Societies which have not yet paid their quotas assigned to them by the resolves of the general meeting of May 18th, 1787, requesting that the amount be paid as soon as possible; that the deficient quotas are required to replace money which the Marquis de la Fayette has actually paid in France for the honor of the Cincinnati; that the monies arising from the sale of the eagles, delivered by Major l'Enfant, have been appropriated to defray the contingent expenses of the general meeting.

Resolved, That the secretary-general be directed to write to Major Turner, late assistant secretary-general, requesting him to account for the eagles entrusted to his care by the resolve of the 18th of May, 1787.

The committee appointed to receive and examine the credentials of the delegates delivered in their report, which was read.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

Wednesday, May 4th.

The general meeting met according to adjournment.
Present:—Major General Mifflin, vice-president general.
From Massachusetts : Major General Knox,
Lieutenant Colonel Hull.

Connecticut :	Brigadier General Wyllis, Lieutenant Colonel Talmadge.
Rhode Island :	Major Dexter.
New York :	Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence, Captain Watson.
New Jersey :	Major Bloomfield, Captain Dayton, Captain Ogden.
Pennsylvania :	Brigadier General Stewart, Lieutenant Colonel Murray. The Honorable Thomas McKean.
Delaware :	Major McKennan, Major Patten.
Maryland :	Lieutenant Colonel Howard, Major Davidson.
Virginia :	Major General Weedon.

Lieutenant Colonel Howard produced a certificate of the treasurer of the State Society of Maryland, relative to the appointment of its delegates, which, being read, was accepted.

The following resolve, which was submitted to the general meeting yesterday for consideration, being discussed, was unanimously accepted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this extra general meeting the present representation of the several State Societies is not sufficient to make and finally establish such alterations as may be thought necessary in the constitution of the Cincinnati, conformably to the resolution and recommendation of the general meeting of the 4th of May, 1790.

On motion,

Resolved, unanimously, That the several State Societies be strongly enjoined to send forward a full representation to the next triennial general meeting, to be held in the city of Philadelphia on the first Monday of May, 1793, fully empowered to agree upon and finally establish all such alterations as may be thought necessary in the general constitution of the Cincinnati.

On motion,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the State Societies to resolve that any amendments or alterations in the institution of the Society of the Cincinnati, which may be concurred in by the representatives of nine State Societies in the next general meeting, shall be obligatory upon them and inviolably observed by every State Society, although not therein represented, and to transmit such resolve, duly authenticated, to the secretary-general.

On motion,

Resolved, That the applications of all French gentlemen on the files of the general meeting for admission as members of the Cincinnati be referred to the Count d'Estaing, Count de Rochambeau, or the Marquis de la Fayette, agreeably to the resolve of the 4th of May, 1790.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consider what further measures may be necessary for the security of the funds.

Whereupon the Honorable Thomas McKean, Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence and Major Bloomfield were appointed for that purpose.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Thursday, May 5th.

The general meeting assembled according to adjournment.

Present:—Major General Mifflin, vice-president-general.

Massachusetts:	Major General Knox.
Rhode Island:	Lieutenant Colonel Hull.
Connecticut:	Brigadier General Wyllis, Lieutenant Colonel Talmadge.
New York:	Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence, Captain Watson.
New Jersey:	Major Bloomfield, Captain Dayton, Captain Ogden.
Pennsylvania:	Brigadier General Stewart, The Honorable Thomas McKean, Lieutenant Colonel Murray.
Delaware:	Major Patten, Major McKennan, Doctor Tilton.
Maryland:	Lieutenant Colonel Howard, Major Davidson.
Virginia:	Major General Weedon.

The committee appointed yesterday relative to the funds presented a report, which, being read and amended, was accepted; whereupon,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this extra general meeting that it would be expedient for the State Societies to take proper measures for obtaining acts of incorporation, so far as may relate to securing to each State Society respectively their funds for the charitable objects for which they were designed; and that the proper mode of disposing of the same would be by loaning their certificates in the loan offices of their States

respectively, and of subscribing their funds, wherever it may be convenient, to the Bank of the United States.

On motion,

Resolved, That the secretary-general have the proceedings of the present extra general meeting printed and transmitted to the several State Societies; and, at the same time, that he in a letter inform them that it is the wish of this general meeting that the several objects recommended receive an early and serious attention.

The general meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

A true copy of the minutes.

H. KNOX,
Secretary-General.

1793

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOURTH TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CINCINNATI,
ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
ON THE SIXTH DAY OF MAY 1793.

Present:—Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president-general.
Delegates from the State Societies:

From Massachusetts :	Major General Henry Knox.
Rhode Island :	Doctor Isaac Senter.
Connecticut :	Brigadier General Samuel Wyllis, Colonel Benjamin Talmadge.
Pennsylvania :	Colonel Francis Murray.

The above not being a quorum for business the delegates adjourned until to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

May 7th.

Present:—The members as above recited, and also

From New Jersey :	Major Joseph Bloomfield.
Pennsylvania :	Brigadier General Walter Stewart, Major William Macpherson.
Maryland :	Major Christopher Richmond.
South Carolina :	Doctor Joseph Hall Ramsay.

A representation of seven State Societies being assembled the meeting proceeded to business.

Upon examining the proceedings of the several State Societies which had been transmitted to the secretary-general, it appeared that only five State Societies had signified their assent to the recommendation of the

extra general meeting of the fourth of May, 1791, "that the representation of nine State Societies should be authorized to alter and amend the institution of the Cincinnati, and that such alteration and amendments should be inviolably observed by every State Society, although not therein represented," besides which the difficulties which oppose themselves to a full representation being considered, it was upon a motion being made and seconded, unanimously

Resolved, That the several State Societies of the Cincinnati be *again* strongly enjoined to send forward a full representation to the next triennial general meeting to be held in the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday of May, 1796, fully empowered to agree upon and finally establish all such alterations as may be thought necessary in the general constitution of the Cincinnati; that it be recommended to the State Societies to resolve that any amendments or alterations in the institution of the Society of the Cincinnati, which may be concurred in by the representatives of *seven* State Societies in the next general meeting shall be obligatory upon them, and inviolably observed by every State Society, although not therein represented, and to transmit such resolve, duly authenticated, to the secretary-general.

The meeting duly proceeded to the choice of the officers to serve the next ensuing three years, when the following persons were duly elected, to wit:

George Washington, president-general.

Thomas Mifflin, vice-president-general.

Henry Knox, secretary-general.

William Macpherson, assistant secretary-general.

The meeting having finished the business before them, adjourned *sine die*.

A true copy from the minutes.

H. KNOX.

1796

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTH TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CINCINNATI,
ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,
ON THE 2D OF MAY, 1796.

Present:—Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president.

From Connecticut:	Captain Ephr. Kirby, Colonel Benjamin Talmadge.
Rhode Island:	Colonel John S. Dexter.
New Jersey:	General Bloomfield, General John Beatty, Elias Boudinot, Esq.
Pennsylvania:	Major William Jackson.
South Carolina:	Doctor Thomas H. McCalla, Doctor Thomas Tudor Tucker, Captain John Markland.

There not being a sufficient number of States represented to form a quorum, adjourned until to-morrow, at twelve o'clock.

May 3d.

Present:—Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president.

From Connecticut:	Captain Ephr. Kirby, Colonel Benjamin Talmadge.
Rhode Island:	Colonel J. S. Dexter.
New Jersey:	General Bloomfield, General John Beatty, Colonel Aaron Ogden, Elias Boudinot, Esq.

(55)

Pennsylvania : Hon. Thomas McKean,
 Hon. R. Peters,
 General S. Moylan,
 Major W. Jackson.

South Carolina : Doctor Thomas H. McCalla,
 Doctor Thomas Tudor Tucker,
 Captain John Markland

There not being a sufficient number of States represented to form a quorum, adjourned until to-morrow, at eleven o'clock.

May 4th.

Present :—Major General Thomas Mifflin, vice-president.

From Connecticut : Captain Ephr. Kirby,
 Colonel Talmadge.

Rhode Island : Colonel J. S. Dexter.

New Jersey : General Bloomfield,
 Elias Boudinot, Esq.,
 Colonel A. Ogden.

Pennsylvania : Hon. Thomas McKean,
 Hon. R. Peters,
 General Moylan,
 Major W. Jackson.

South Carolina : Doctor Thomas H. McCalla,
 Doctor Thomas Tudor Tucker,
 Captain Markland.

Adjourned. General Bloomfield moved.

May 5th.

Present :—Major General Mifflin, vice-president.

From Connecticut : Captain E. Kirby,
 Colonel Talmadge.

Rhode Island : Colonel J. S. Dexter.

New Jersey : General Bloomfield,
 Elias Boudinot, Esq.,
 Colonel A. Ogden.

Pennsylvania : Hon. Thomas McKean,
 Hon. R. Peters,
 General S. Moylan,
 Major W. Jackson.

South Carolina : Doctor Thomas H. McCalla,
 Doctor Thomas Tudor Tucker,
 Captain Markland,
 Lieutenant James Kennedy.

Only five State Societies were represented at the triennial meeting in May, 1796. The delegates to this meeting addressed the following circular letter to the several State Societies :

PHILADELPHIA, May 6th, 1796.

"To the President of the——State Society of the Cincinnati.

“SIR:—The General Society of the Cincinnati, convened agreeably to the original constitution, regret the necessity by which they are compelled to address the State Societies in the language of complaint and remonstrance; but anxious to perpetuate the benevolent motives by which the officers of the American army were actuated at the triumphant close of an arduous eight years’ contest, they cannot forbear remarking on the supine, and, as they conceive, reprehensible conduct of the State Societies, in thus repeatedly neglecting their representations in the general meeting.

“Representatives only from the Societies of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, have met at this time; and being incompetent to any other purposes of their appointment than the choice of officers for the ensuing three years, they are obliged, after several days unavailing attendance, to adjourn.

“The inconvenience to delegates, who are sent from remote parts of the Union, and the expense incurred by these fruitless attempts to transact the business of the Society, are lost in the more important consideration that the very existence of the Society is endangered by the continued inattention of the State Societies, which inattention is by some, and not without apparent cause, construed into a designed dereliction of the institution itself.

“The objects of the triennial meetings of 1790 and 1793, and of the extra meetings of 1788 and 1791, have all failed, from this unaccountable apathy on the part of some of the State Societies; and even the proposed alteration of the constitution, which was deemed of sufficient importance to have claimed the immediate and animated attention of every State Society, has shared the fate of other propositions, and remains yet undetermined.

“To facilitate the discussion of this primary object, and to render the final decision thereon as certain and convenient as possible, it was proposed to the State Societies, by the general meeting in 1793, that they should pass resolutions, to be transmitted to the secretary-general, declaring the consent of seven States, in general meeting, competent to make such alterations in the original constitution, as should be thought advantageous and necessary. It is painful to observe that answers from five State Societies only have yet been made to this interesting communication.

"The delegates to the present general meeting actuated by the spirit of their constituents, and alarmed at the indifference which has hitherto prevailed, beg leave most earnestly to solicit the attention of such State Societies, as have heretofore neglected it, to this important object; and they recommend that every exertion be made toward completing the State representations in the next triennial general meeting, and to guard against the consequence of any failure therein, it is requested that the several State Societies would, in the intermediate time, transmit their resolutions, relative to the requisition of 1793, to the secretary-general.

"When the objects contemplated in this recommendation and request are considered, when it is understood that the means of improving the intercourse between State and general meetings, a final decision on the constitution, and even the duration of the Society, may depend on what is now to be done by the State Societies, the general meeting cannot but be persuaded of a prompt and effectual compliance with what they here respectfully propose, and anxiously enjoin upon their brethren of the State Societies.

"THOMAS MIFFLIN,

Vice-President.

"Rhode Island : JOHN S. DEXTER.

"Connecticut : EPHRAIM KIRBY,
BENJAMIN TALMADGE.

"New Jersey : ELIAS BOUDINOT,
AARON OGDEN,
JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD.

"Pennsylvania : THOMAS MCKEAN,
STEPHEN MOYLAN,
RICHARD PETERS,
WILLIAM JACKSON.

"South Carolina : THOMAS H. McCALLA,
THOMAS TUDOR TUCKER,
JAMES KENNEDY,
JOHN MARKLAND."

1799
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SIXTH TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CINCINNATI,
ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,
ON MONDAY THE SIXTH OF MAY, 1799.

Present:—Major William Jackson, treasurer-general; Brigadier General William Macpherson, assistant secretary-general.

Delegates from the State Society of New Jersey:

Brigadier General Jonathan Dayton,
Colonel Aaron Ogden,
Brigadier General Beatty,
Major General J. Bloomfield.

Delegates from the State Society of Pennsylvania:

General Moylan,
Colonel Johnston,
Colonel Pickering.

There not being a sufficient number of delegates to form a quorum, adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, May 7th.

Present:—Officers of the General Society and delegates from the State Societies as yesterday. Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, May 8th.

Present:—Officers of the General Society and delegates from the State Societies as yesterday.

A letter from General Knox, secretary-general, dated at Boston, November 6th, 1798, inclosing a letter from the State Society of South Carolina, was laid before the meeting but not acted on, the members present not conceiving themselves competent to transact any other business than to elect officers for the ensuing three years.

It was moved by General Dayton, seconded by General Beatty, that when the General Society adjourn, they adjourn to meet in the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday in May next.

The members present then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing three years, when it appeared from the ballots that the following gentlemen were duly elected:

General George Washington, president-general.

Major General Alexander Hamilton, vice-president-general.

Major William Jackson, secretary-general.

Brigadier General William Macpherson, treasurer-general.

Dr. Nathan Dorsey, assistant secretary-general.

It was resolved that the secretary-general be instructed to write to the presidents of the several State Societies, transmitting a copy of the letter which was addressed to the State Societies by the delegates to the last general meeting, and urging in the most pointed terms the necessity of a particular attention to the objects therein enjoined.

Adjourned.

1800

AT AN ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CINCINNATI
HELD IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,
ON MONDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF MAY, 1800.

Present:—Major William Jackson, secretary-general.

Delegate from the State Society of Rhode Island:

Rev. Dr. Hitchcock.

From the State Society of Connecticut:

General Huntington,
Colonel Talmadge.

From the State Society of New Jersey:

General Bloomfield.

From the State Society of Pennsylvania:

Colonel Pickering,
Mr. Biddle,
Mr. Peters.

From the State Society of South Carolina:

Captain Markland.

Adjourned to meet this evening at six o'clock.

Monday, May 5th, six o'clock, P. M.

Present:—Major William Jackson, secretary-general, and delegates
from the State Societies:

From Massachusetts: General Shepherd.

Connecticut: General Huntington,
Colonel Talmadge.

New Jersey: General Dayton,
General Bloomfield.

From Pennsylvania : Colonel Pickering,
 Mr. Biddle,
 Mr. Bingham,
 Mr. Peters.
Maryland : General Howard,
 General Smith.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow evening at six o'clock

Tuesday, May 6th

Present :—Major William Jackson, secretary-general.

Delegates :

Massachusetts :	General Shepherd, Mr. Edwards.
Rhode Island :	Rev. Dr. Hitchcock.
Connecticut :	General Huntington, Colonel Talmadge.
New York :	Colonel Lawrence.
New Jersey :	General Dayton, General Bloomfield, General Beatty.
Pennsylvania :	General Moylan, Colonel Pickering, Mr. Bingham, Mr. Biddle, Mr. Peters.
Maryland :	General Howard, General Smith.
South Carolina :	Major Pinckney, Captain Markland.

Colonel Pickering was chosen chairman of the meeting.

Credentials from the following State Societies to their delegates to the present general meeting were read and filed: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and South Carolina.

The proceedings of the last general meeting were read.

The following circular letter from the secretary-general to the presidents of the several States Societies, transmitting a copy of the letter which was addressed by the general meeting of May 1796, to the State Societies, was laid before the meeting :

"PHILADELPHIA, May 24th, 1799.

"SIR:—In pursuance of an instruction by the delegates who attended the last general meeting of the Cincinnati, I do myself the honor to transmit to you a copy of the letter, which was addressed by the general meeting of 1796, to the several State Societies, which you will be pleased to lay before your State Society at their next annual meeting.

"It is intended by again submitting this interesting letter to the consideration of the State Societies, to call their attention, in the most earnest manner, to the important objects which it enjoins.

"The delegates to the general meeting, appointed to be held in this city on the first Monday of the present month, not constituting a quorum to transact any other business than the election of officers for the ensuing three years, resolved to adjourn the general meeting to the first Monday in May next, and to request that the several State Societies would appoint and instruct delegates to attend at the city of Philadelphia on that day.

"It was supposed that every doubt of a full representation and punctual attendance might be obviated by suggesting to the State Societies the expediency of appointing such of their members as would be attendant on the Federal Government, delegates to the general meeting of the Cincinnati, which is to be held in this city on the first Monday in May next.

"Permit me to solicit your particular attention to this communication, and to assure you of the respectful attachment with which

"I have the honor to be, sir,

"Your faithful and obedient servant,

"WILLIAM JACKSON,
"Secretary-General of the Cincinnati."

It was moved by Mr. Bingham and seconded by General Bloomfield, that a respectful testimonial to the memory of General Washington be entered on the records of the General Society of the Cincinnati, which was unanimously agreed to, and Mr. Bingham, Major Pinckney and General Dayton were appointed a committee to prepare and report the same.

On motion, General Bloomfield, Dr. Hitchcock and General Huntington were appointed a committee to examine the records of the Society, and to report to this meeting the state of the institution.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow evening at five o'clock.

Wednesday, May 7th.

Present:—Colonel Pickering, chairman; Major Jackson, secretary-general; General Macpherson, treasurer-general, and delegates as yesterday.

The credentials from the New York State Society to their delegates were read and filed.

Mr. Bingham, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following testimonial of respect to the memory of General Washington, which was twice read, unanimously agreed to and ordered to be entered on the records of the Society as the first act of the present general meeting after its organization :

" Under the most profound impression of veneration and affection, the Society of the Cincinnati, at a general meeting, are called upon to express the mournful tribute of their sorrow, at that awful dispensation of Providence, which has recently removed from their councils, their much revered and lamented president-general.

" The arduous, though successful struggle which terminated in establishing the liberties of our country, and in which they fought under his banners, and shared with him the dangers and toils of the field, attached him to this Society, by ties of the most intimate and endearing nature. His valor and prudence seemed to control the events of war, led the American armies to victory, and achieved the independence of their country. Whilst mingling their tears with those of their fellow-citizens, they are naturally impelled to pour out the effusions of a deeper regret, for the irreparable loss which they have sustained.

" But it is not only in their relationship to this illustrious character, as soldiers, that the Society of the Cincinnati have cause to deplore his loss.

" When the storm of war had ceased to rage, and the blessings of peace had been restored, their country was suffering under the weakness of a confederation, which threatened the existence of that union, which their joint efforts in arms had so essentially contributed to establish.

" With his auspicious co-operation, a constitution was formed, calculated, by its wisdom and energy, to redeem us from that prostrate state to which we had been reduced, and to restore that reputation which our country had lost, from the imbecility of the old system. The administration of the government was committed to his care, and his country will ever hold in grateful remembrance the inflexible virtue and fortitude with which he conducted its affairs, and saved it from the effects of domestic faction and foreign intrigue.

" After a second retirement from the active scenes of public life, in which his merits as a statesman rivaled his fame as a soldier, his country, at the approach of danger, again required his services. The crisis was important, and the situation delicate; a nation which had mingled its blood with ours in the defence of our liberties, had now assumed a hostile appearance; a war from this unexpected quarter threatened the peace of our country.

"Washington, who never hesitated when urged by a sense of duty, obeyed the call of the government. He again abandoned his beloved retirement, hazarded a reputation, consummate in every point of view, and assumed command of the armies. His military companions, who had frequently witnessed the magnanimity of his conduct in seasons of adversity, as well as of triumph, felt the full force of their country's appeal to arms, whilst Washington was their leader.

"In this momentous crisis of our affairs, by the inscrutable decrees of Heaven, he was snatched from America and the world.

"Under this pressure of calamity, which more peculiarly operates upon the sensibilities of this Society, their only consolation is derived from the animating reflection, that although he is summoned to the enjoyment of the happy destinies of a future state, the bright example of his virtues and talents will still survive, and the inheritance of his name prove a future incentive to heroes and legislators, who will strive to emulate his fame and merit the glory he has acquired."

General Bloomfield, from the committee appointed to examine the records of the Society and report to this meeting the state of the institution, made report as follows:—

"The committee appointed to examine the records of the Society, and to report to this meeting the state of the institution, as relative to the alteration of the constitution, which was proposed by the general meeting held in the city of Philadelphia in the year 1784, beg leave to report:

"That on inspecting the documents in the possession of the secretary-general they do not find that any additional communications have been made from the several State Societies, since the circular letter from the general meeting of 1796, on the subject of the proposed alteration above referred to.

"From the silence which the State Societies have observed, after the pressing circular letters of the general meeting, your committee are led to conclude, that they do not accede to the proposed reform; and your committee conceive therefrom that they are authorized to report to the general meeting:—

"That the institution of the Society of the Cincinnati remains as it was originally proposed and adopted by the officers of the American army, at their cantonments on the banks of the Hudson River, in 1783.

"JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD,
"ENOS HITCHCOCK,
"EBEN. HUNTINGTON, } Committee.

"May 7th, 1800."

Which report, on motion of General Smith, seconded by Colonel Lawrence, was unanimously adopted.

It was moved by Major Pinckney, seconded by General Howard, that a majority of the State Societies, which shall convene in general meeting, is competent to recommend alterations in the constitution, which alterations being afterwards assented to by seven State Societies, shall be binding on all the State Societies: *Provided*, the consent to such alterations be reported by the Societies agreeing to the same, to the next general meeting.

The ayes and noes on the foregoing resolutions being taken by State Societies, are as follows:—

Massachusetts,	No.
Rhode Island,	No.
Connecticut,	No.
New York,	No.
New Jersey,	No.
Pennsylvania,	No.
Maryland,	Divided.
South Carolina,	Divided.

So it passed in the negative.

It was moved by General Huntington, seconded by General Bloomfield, that at every general meeting, after the credentials of the respective members shall have been read, the secretary-general shall read the rules and regulations for conducting the business of the general meeting, as adopted May, 1787, previous to any other business; which passed in the affirmative.

On motion, the meeting proceeded to the election of a president-general to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of General Washington, when Major General Alexander Hamilton was unanimously chosen president-general.

The meeting proceeded to elect a vice-president-general in the room of General Hamilton, when Major General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney was unanimously chosen vice-president-general.

On motion of General Smith, seconded by General Huntington, it was
Resolved, That the next meeting of the General Society be held at the seat of the Government of the United States on the first Monday of May, 1802.

Adjourned.

W. JACKSON,
Secretary-General.

1802

AT A TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF THE
CINCINNATI,

CONVENED AT THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, IN THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA,

ON MONDAY, THE THIRD DAY OF MAY, A. D. 1802.

Present from the State of

Massachusetts :	Major General Wm. Shepherd.
Rhode Island :	Colonel William Peck.
Connecticut :	Colonel Benjamin Talmadge.
New Jersey :	Colonel Aaron Ogden.
Pennsylvania :	Major General Wm. Irvine, Major General Andrew Porter.
Maryland :	Colonel John E. Howard, General Samuel Smith.

At ten o'clock A. M. the meeting was opened at the capitol, six State Societies only being represented.

Voted that this meeting be adjourned to two o'clock this afternoon, then to convene at this place.

Met according to adjournment.

Present:—The same delegates as before.

Voted to adjourn and to meet again at the same place at eight o'clock this evening

Met according to adjournment.

Present:—The same delegates as before.

Voted that a president and secretary *pro tempore* be chosen at this time. Major General Irvine was accordingly chosen president *pro tem.*, and Colonel William Peck, secretary *pro tem.*

The meeting being now formed proceeded to business.

Resolved, That the general meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati will now proceed to the choice of officers to serve for three years, and that same be done by ballot.

A ballot was accordingly had, and on counting the votes it appeared that the following gentlemen were unanimously elected to fill the offices annexed to their names, respectively:

Major General Alexander Hamilton, president-general.

Major General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, vice-president-general.

Major William Jackson, secretary-general.

Major William Dent Beall, assistant-secretary-general.

Brigadier General William Macpherson, treasurer-general.

Resolved, That this meeting be adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning, then to convene at the same place.

May 4th.

The delegates having met according to adjournment,

Resolved, That the next triennial general meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday of May, Anno Domini 1805.

The delegates of the Society of the Cincinnati convened at this time, have to regret the great inattention of many of the State Societies in not sending a representation to the triennial meetings, by which neglect the business of the Society (except the appointment of their officers), must necessarily be postponed, and that harmony and friendship, the basis of the institution, inevitably decline.

Resolved, Therefore that they do most earnestly recommend to those State Societies which have been thus remiss in sending delegates to the general meetings, that they by no means omit having a representation from their several Societies at the next triennial meeting, as upon this general representation depends the existence of that friendship which was "formed under the pressure of common danger, and in many instances cemented by the blood of the parties."

Resolved, That the secretary *pro tem.* be requested to send copies of the proceedings of this general meeting to the officers thus appointed for the General Society of the Cincinnati.

Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to enter the foregoing proceedings on the records of the General Society, and that he transmit a copy of the same to each of the States Societies.

Resolved, That this meeting do adjourn without day.

Attest:

W. PECK,
Secretary *pro tem.*

WASHINGTON, May 4th, 1802.

1805

AT A TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY
OF THE CINCINNATI,
CONVENED AT THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,
ON MONDAY, MAY 6TH, 1805.

Present:—Major Jackson, secretary-general.

From Pennsylvania: General Moylan,
General Porter.

South Carolina: Captain Markland.

Adjourned until to-morrow twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, May 7th.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:—Major Jackson, secretary-general.

From Rhode Island: Colonel Lyman.

New York: Mr. Watson.

New Jersey: General E. Dayton.

Pennsylvania: General Moylan,
General Porter.

South Carolina: Captain Markland.

The Society proceeded to the choice of a president, when General Dayton was requested to take the chair.

The following credentials were produced and directed to be received and lodged with the secretary-general.

The Society adjourned to meet at five o'clock this afternoon.

Five P. M.

The meeting convened agreeably to adjournment.

Present:—General Dayton, president; Major Jackson, secretary-general.

From Rhode Island :	Colonel Lyman.
New York :	Mr. Watson.
Pennsylvania :	General Moylan, General Porter.
South Carolina :	Captain Markland.

The meeting proceeded to the choice of officers for the ensuing three years, and the ballots being taken the following gentlemen were unanimously elected :

General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, president-general.

General Henry Knox, vice-president-general.

Major William Jackson, secretary-general.

Major William Dent Beall, assistant secretary-general.

General William Macpherson, treasurer-general.

On motion,

Resolved, That the secretary-general communicate the proceedings of the general meeting to the officers of the general meeting, and to the respective State Societies, and that the names of the officers elected at this meeting be published.

Resolved, That the next triennial meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the fifth Monday of May, in the year 1808.

The meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

1811

AT A MEETING OF DELEGATES FROM THE STATE
SOCIETIES OF THE CINCINNATI TO THE
GENERAL SOCIETY,

HELD IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, JULY 4TH, 1811.

Present:

From New York: Colonel B. Livingston,
Major Fowler.

Pennsylvania: Major W. Jackson,
Charles Biddle, Esq.,
Horace Binney, Esq.

South Carolina: Colonel Morris,
Captain Markland.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting proceed to the election of officers of the General Society of the Cincinnati for the ensuing three years; and, the ballots being taken, it appeared that the following gentlemen were unanimously elected for the ensuing three years:

Major General C. C. Pinckney, president-general.

Major General J. Brooks, vice-president-general.

Major W. Jackson, secretary-general.

Brigadier General Macpherson, treasurer-general.

Adjourned, to meet at Philadelphia on the first Wednesday in August next.

At a meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, held by adjournment, at Philadelphia, August 7th, 1811.

Present:—General C. C. Pinckney, president-general; Major W. Jackson, secretary-general; General Macpherson, treasurer-general.

Delegates:

From New Jersey, credentials produced:

Doctor Boudinot,
General Cumming,
General Beatty,
General Giles.

From Pennsylvania: Mr. Biddle,
Mr. Binney.
South Carolina: Colonel Morris,
Captain Markla

Adjourned to meet to-morrow, at half-past ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 8th.

Present:—Officers and delegates as yesterday.

The president-general reported to the General Society,

That the diamond insignia of the Order of the Cincinnati which had been presented by the marine officers of France, who were members of the Society, to His Excellency General Washington—and by the heirs of the general had been sent to General Hamilton, was delivered to him (General Pinckney) by Mrs. Hamilton—and as he conceived that this testimonial of respect for the immortal Washington, which his heirs had delivered to General Hamilton, and Mrs. Hamilton had been pleased to confide to him, as president-general of the Society, ought, in respectful remembrance of her flattering distinction, to be hereafter considered as appurtenant to the office of president-general, he requested that this memorandum might be inserted on the records of the General Society.

Whereupon it was unanimously

Resolved, That the respectful and affectionate thanks of the General Society of the Cincinnati be presented to Mrs. Hamilton for this highly acceptable present; and that the wish of the president-general, expressed in his memorandum, is respectfully acceded to by the Society.

It was moved by Dr. Boudinot, seconded by General Beatty, that a committee of three members be appointed to ascertain the present situation of the several State Societies, and to make report to the General Society; and Dr. Boudinot, Major Jackson and Mr. Binney were appointed the committee.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at half-past ten o'clock.

Friday, August 9th.

Present:—Officers and delegates as yesterday.

The following report was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was ordered that the circular letter be signed by the president and secretary-general in behalf of the delegates:

"In obedience to the resolve of the General Society, which instructs your committee 'to ascertain the present situation of the several State Societies of the Cincinnati,' your committee beg leave to report that, as far as their limited enquiry extends, it appears, on the information of some of

its members, that a portion of the members of the Delaware State Society of the Cincinnati have dissolved that Society and distributed its funds; and, on less authenticated information, it would also seem that portions of the members of the Connecticut and Virginia State Societies of the Cincinnati have also dissolved their Societies and diverted their funds from the purposes to which they were originally pledged; and that the other State Societies of the Cincinnati continue under the original constitution, as agreed on by the officers of the American army on the banks of the Hudson, in the year 1783.

"Your committee beg leave further to report that, under a consideration of these circumstances, they think it advisable to address a letter from the General Society of the Cincinnati to the respective State Societies; the following draught of which they respectfully submit:

"ELIAS BOUDINOT,
"Chairman of Committee,
"and in their behalf."

CIRCULAR LETTER.

"To the —— State Society of the Cincinnati:

"Urged by all the considerations which an endeared remembrance of the causes which led to the organization of the Society of the Cincinnati can suggest, and under an ardent wish to perpetuate the benevolent objects for which it was instituted, the delegates to the General Society, now convened at Philadelphia, have resolved, without reserve, to communicate the sentiments with which they are deeply impressed to the several State Societies.

"It is with extreme regret they state that the apprehension heretofore entertained, and often expressed, that the neglect on the part of several State Societies to appoint delegates to the General Society would be productive of the most serious consequences, is alarmingly realized by the inconsiderate act of a portion of the members of one or more State Societies, in dissolving their official connection as members of the Cincinnati, and in distributing those funds which had long ceased to be individual property, or liable to any but their original appropriation. An act such as this most evidently involves a departure from the solemn engagement, entered into on the banks of the Hudson, to perpetuate the institution, and to preserve, unalienated and unimpaired, those funds which had been sacredly devoted to the relief of distressed members and their families. That this deeply regretted cessation of intercourse between the General and State Societies has been the influential cause of these errors is our most serious conviction; and that the best corrective of these unconstitutional proceedings will be found in the immediate renewal of that

endeared intercourse, no one who indulges the recollection of the scenes that passed in the service of our beloved country can for a moment hesitate to believe.

"It is, therefore, most earnestly recommended to the several State Societies that they would not only appoint delegates to attend the next meeting of the General Society, which will be held at Philadelphia on the second Tuesday of September, 1812, but that they would enjoin their punctual attendance, as the most efficient means of restoring that harmony which ought forever to subsist between men who, as faithful comrades in honor and misfortune, must anxiously desire, by the continuance of this Society, to transmit a grateful remembrance of their union, and of those services by which the national claim to sovereignty and independence was established.

"Done in General Society of the Cincinnati, at Philadelphia, August 9, 1811, by unanimous order.

"CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY,
"President-General."

"W. JACKSON,
Secretary-General."

And the following resolve was unanimously agreed to:

Resolved, That the secretary-general be instructed to forward the preceding letter to the presidents of the respective State Societies, or to such member thereof as will cause it to be laid before the said Societies, requesting, at the same time, that such information relative to the funds, members and officers of the said Societies as can be conveniently furnished may be forwarded to the secretary-general.

Resolved, That a certificate, under the signature of the president-general, and countersigned by the secretary-general, issue to the Chevalier de Segond that he was regularly admitted a member of the Society of the Cincinnati—this certificate being granted to replace his diploma, which had been lost.

Adjourned to meet at Philadelphia on the second Tuesday of September, 1812.

1812

MEMORANDUM:

GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, PA,

7TH, 8TH, 9TH AND 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1812.

Four State Societies were represented, viz.: Pennsylvania, New York, South Carolina and New Jersey. The Societies of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Maryland were notified that the meeting was adjourned to 29th September, 1812.

When it again met, but three States only being represented—viz., Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and New Jersey—no business was done.—
(Compiled from reports of New York and New Jersey delegates.)

" Major Jackson, }
" Wm Biddle, Esq. } Pennsylvania.
" Gen'l Giles, }
" Major Richard Cox, } New Jersey.
" Captain Markland, So. Carolina.
" Lebbeus Loomis, New York.

" Convened at the Mansion House, Phila., on Monday, Sept. 7th, only four States, as above, being represented.

" Adjourned from day to day until Thursday, the 10th instant, when it was agreed to adjourn to meet at the same place on Thursday, the 29th Sept. instant, at eleven o'clock A. M.

" The sec'y-general of the Society expects that Gen'l Pinckney will arrive at Phila. this month, & has written circular letters to the presidents of the Societies of the Cincinnati of Massachusetts, Rhode Island & Maryland, urging in the most pressing manner the necessity of their appointing delegates from their respective Societies to meet in Phila. on the 29th inst.

I now hand you a copy of the proceedings of the General Society of the Cincinnati in Phila. the last year; and have only to add that I returned home this afternoon, and am,

"Very respectfully,

"Yr. ob. serv't,

"LEBBEUS LOOMIS.

"NEW YORK, Saturday, Sept. 12, 1812.

"COL. R. VARICK.

Addressed.—"Colo. Rich'd Varick, President of the Society of Cincinnati, State of New York."

Endorsed.—"12th Sept., 1812. Col. Libbs. Loomis. Report as Delegate Gen'l Society."

From 1812 to 1825 no meetings of the General Society were held. The members, during this interim, were principally revolutionary officers of advanced age, and no subject of particular importance to the Society arose which seemed to require a meeting. The difficulty of traveling at that time and the expense entailed on each Society in sending a representation were the reasons why triennia meetings were not then held.

1825.

Pursuant to notice from the Secretary-General of the Society of the Cincinnati, announcing the death of the President-General, the Vice-President-General, and the Treasurer-General, and appointing a Meeting of the Delegates from the several State Societies, in General Society, at the City of Philadelphia, on the first day of November, 1825.

The delegates met at Philadelphia, November 1st, 1825.

Colonel S. Dexter and Colonel Daniel Lyman, appeared as delegates from Rhode Island.

Colonel Nicholas Fish and Colonel Robert Troup, appeared as delegates from New York.

Major William Jackson, Doctor G. Stevenson and Colonel A. McLane, appeared as delegates from Pennsylvania.

Captain John Markland, Captain William B. Shubrick and Lieutenant Edward Shubrick, appeared as delegates from South Carolina.

The certificates of appointment of the foregoing delegates in the several State Societies were examined and approved, and the delegates took their seats.

The Society adjourned to meet again this evening, at six o'clock.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before.

Colonel Aaron Ogden and Colonel Joseph Warren Scott, appeared as delegates from New Jersey. The certificate of their appointment was examined and approved, and they took their seats.

Major William Jackson was appointed chairman, and Colonel Joseph W. Scott was appointed secretary.

On motion

Resolved, That this Society postpone the appointment of their general officers until to-morrow.

On motion

Resolved, That the Society will now enter into the consideration and discussion of the expediency of applying to Congress, in relation to the claims of the surviving officers of the Revolution on the justice of their country.

Whereupon, after some discussion, on motion of Colonel Ogden, seconded by Colonel Fish,

Resolved unanimously, That a committee be appointed to draw and present to Congress, a respectful memorial, setting forth the claims of justice, which the surviving officers of the Revolutionary army have on their country and its government, and praying that a law may be passed for their relief.

The committee appointed were Major Jackson, Colonel Lyman and Colonel Fish.

On motion

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire and report whether any, and what alterations in the constitution of this Society are expedient.

Colonel Ogden and Colonel Dexter appointed the committee.

On motion

Resolved, That Captain Shubrick and Colonel Scott be a committee to draw up and report to this Society, a circular, to be addressed to the several State Societies.

The Society adjourned, to meet to-morrow at noon.

Major Jackson, from the committee on that subject, reported the draught of a memorial to Congress, on the part of the surviving officers of the Revolutionary Army.

Ordered that the same be accepted; ordered that it be signed by all the members present.

Captain Shubrick, from the committee on that subject, reported a circular letter to each of the State Societies.

Ordered that it be accepted.

CIRCULAR.

"SIR:—The delegates from the several State Societies of the Cincinnati, convened at Philadelphia on the first instant, in consequence of notice from the secretary-general, besides transacting the regular business before them, have determined to present a memorial to the Congress of the United States at its ensuing session, a copy of which accompanies this communication; you will perceive that the object of the memorial is to

obtain an adjustment of the accounts of the surviving officers of the Revolutionary Army, and thereby secure to these time-worn patriots in their last days, the scanty provision which, though repeatedly pledged, has been unaccountably and unjustly withheld.

"As it is known to be the intention of some of the State Societies to present memorials on the same subject, and it is presumed all will unite in the good work, a copy of the memorial of the general convention is sent to the president of each of the State Societies, in order that all the memorials may assimilate in spirit, and as much as possible in form and phrase.—It is further suggested, that a schedule be subjoined to the memorial from each State, giving the name and age of each officer of the line of the State, now surviving."

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to prepare and present a letter to the President of the United States—Major Jackson, Colonel Ogden and Colonel Troup:—and Major Jackson reported the following letter, which was adopted, and signed by all the delegates:

"To JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, President of the United States:

"Sir:—Induced by the high estimation in which you are held by the surviving officers of the Revolutionary army, we presume to submit to your favorable attention the enclosed copy of a memorial in their behalf, addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, and which will be presented at the ensuing session of Congress.

"Entreating forgiveness of this freedom, we have the honor to be, with sentiments of the most respectful attachment, your faithful obedient servants.

"To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

"The memorial of the subscribers, delegates on behalf of the surviving officers of the Revolutionary Army, most respectfully sheweth,

"That authorized by the unrivaled prosperity of their free and happy country, and urged by every consideration of duty to themselves and of justice to the national character, they submit a renewal of their claim for the compensation which was stipulated as the reward of those services and sacrifices, which, without a boast, they may be allowed to say, contributed to secure the peace, happiness and sovereignty of the United States.

"Your memorialists will not trespass on the delicacy of your honorable Houses by suggesting any specific settlement of their claim—assured, as they are, by the general sentiments of their fellow-citizens, that the liberality and justice of government will be conformed to the ample means which it possesses to fulfil the stipulations heretofore made—they will only take the liberty of referring to the acts of Congress which

record those stipulations, which, correctly construed, will satisfy the most accurate calculation, that up to the present time, the promised reward has not been realized by the surviving officers of the Revolutionary army.

“The plain and irrefutable illustration of this fact, is found in the depreciation of their pay, the paper of which, was ultimately redeemed at one hundred for one—it is found in the commutation of the stipulated half pay for life, for five years full pay, the certificates of which, owing to the non-provision for the payment of interest, were depreciated to eight for one—it is found in funding the interest due on their certificates at three per cent., absorbing one-half the value of the principal—and it is found, in deferring the payment of one-third of the principal for ten years without interest. Under this statement of facts, the correctness of which cannot be contradicted, your memorialists confide in the liberal, just and prompt decision of government, for which they prefer the present application in behalf of themselves and their brother officers.

“The lapse of near half a century having greatly reduced the number of officers of the Revolutionary army, and the youngest of the survivors now approaching his seventieth year, your memorialists cannot doubt the disposition of your honorable Houses, to smooth the passage to the grave of the remaining few, who, but for the urgent necessity which compels this application, would have continued in their secluded situations, to contemplate the unexampled felicity of their favored country.

“And your memorialists will ever pray.”

[Signed by all the Delegates.]

The committee to whom was referred the subject of amendments to the constitution, beg leave to report the following, to be in force as soon as adopted, by all the State Societies in existence, and due notice thereof accordingly given by each respective Society, to the secretary or assistant secretary-general, as the case may be:

First Amendment.—That whenever a vacancy shall happen in regard to any of the officers of the General Society, it shall be the duty of the secretary-general, or in case it should happen as to him, of the assistant secretary-general, to give notice accordingly to the president of each State Society, whose duty it shall be at their next anniversary meeting, to ballot for some suitable person to supply such vacancy, whose name shall be transmitted to such secretary or assistant secretary-general, as the case may be, who shall thereupon count up the votes, and the person who shall have a plurality of votes shall succeed to such vacancy, and in case of an equality of votes, the one of them who may be senior in age, shall be such successor.

Second Amendment.—It shall be the duty of the officers of the General Society, to meet at the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday in May,

at least once in every three years, according to their own appointment or a notice from the president-general, and they, or as many as shall convene shall be a board, under such rules as they may prescribe, to transact such business as might be transacted at a meeting of the General Society, and to call such general meetings as often as the exigencies of the Society may seem to require.

The Society proceeded by ballot to the choice of officers, when it appeared that the following were elected:

Major General Thomas Pinckney, of South Carolina, president-general.
Colonel Aaron Ogden, of New Jersey, vice-president-general.
Major Wm. Jackson, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.
Captain John Markland, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.
Colonel Allen McLane, of Delaware, treasurer-general.
A. W. Johnston, Esq., of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

Attest:

W. JACKSON,
Chairman.

1829

AT A TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY
OF THE CINCINNATI,
CONVENED AT PHILADELPHIA,
MONDAY, THE 4TH OF MAY, A. D. 1829.

Present:—The vice-president-general and Major Judah Alden, of Massachusetts.

Adjourned till the following day, at ten o'clock A. M.

Tuesday, May 5th.

The Society met agreeably to adjournment.

Present:—The vice-president-general, assistant treasurer-general, assistant secretary-general, and the following delegates, viz. :—

From Massachusetts: Major Judah Alden.

New York: Major General Morgan Lewis,
Major William Popham.

New Jersey: Colonel Aaron Ogden.

Pennsylvania: Captain John Markland.

South Carolina: Captain Edward R. Shubrick.

A. W. Johnston was appointed Secretay *pro tem.*

The minutes of the last general meeting of the Society, held on the 1st of November, 1825, were then read, when, on motion, it was

Resolved, That such State Societies and officers of the General Society as convene in general meetings, shall be competent to transact business.

On motion,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several State Societies to contribute, on every succeeding Fourth of July, twenty dollars each, and forward the same to the treasurer-general, towards the formation of a fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the general meetings.

On motion,

Resolved, That the members residing in any State not having a State Society of the Cincinnati, may form themselves into such State Society.

On motion,

Resolved, That upon application of foreign officers, members of this Society, diplomas are to be issued by the secretary-general, under the direction of the president-general.

On motion,

Resolved, That the different State Societies be requested to furnish a list of their members to the General Society, at their next triennial meeting, to be held on the first Monday in May, 1832.

A question having arisen, whether, in case of the death of a member, having no male issue, except a *grandson*, the issue of a daughter, *such grandson* shall be preferred to male collaterals, the Society conceived the true construction of the constitution to be, that *the grandson shall be preferred, he being in the direct line of descent*.

The Society proceeded to the election of officers, when, upon counting the ballots, the following members were found to be duly elected, viz.:

Colonel Aaron Ogden, president-general.

Major General Morgan Lewis, vice-president-general.

Colonel A. McLane, treasurer-general.

Captain John Markland, assistant treasurer-general.

Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general.

Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general.

The secretary-general is directed to furnish the officers of the different State Societies with copies of the proceedings of the present meeting.

The Society then adjourned till the first Monday in May, A. D. 1832, the constitutional period of meeting.

1832

AT A STATED MEETING OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY
OF THE CINCINNATI,
HELD AT THE MANSION HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA,
MONDAY, MAY 7TH, 1832.

There were present:—Colonel Aaron Ogden, president-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general.

Delegates:

From New Jersey:	Colonel Joseph W. Scott.
Pennsylvania:	Captain James Glentworth, General Cal. Irvine, William Jackson, Esq.

On motion of Colonel Scott, it was

Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to have the minutes and proceedings of the General Society written up to the present day, the expense to be defrayed from the fund of the General Society.

On motion of General Irvine, it was

Resolved, That the president-general be authorized to call a meeting of the General Society whenever circumstances may appear to render it necessary; also, that the State Societies be requested to appoint delegates annually to represent them in the general meeting.

WHEREAS, At the last triennial meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, two resolutions were entered into, viz.:

“*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several State Societies to contribute on every succeeding Fourth of July twenty dollars each, and forward the same to the treasurer-general, towards the formation of a fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the general meetings;”

And,

“*Resolved*, That the different State Societies be requested to furnish a list of the members to the General Society, at their next triennial meeting, to be held on the first Monday in May, 1832.”

Now, on motion,

Resolved, That the several State Societies be requested to furnish a list of members (such State Societies as have not already done so), and attend to the other subject referred to in the said resolutions.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers, when the following members were duly elected:

Colonel Aaron Ogden, of New Jersey, president-general.

Major General Morgan Lewis, of New York, vice-president-general.

Alexander W. Johnston, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

Captain John Markland, of Pennsylvania, treasurer-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of General Irvine, it was

Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to send to each State Society a certified copy of the proceedings of this meeting

When, on a motion,

The meeting adjourned, having previously received and approved of the treasurer-general's accounts.

THOMAS McEUEN,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1835

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI
HELD A
STATED TRIENNIAL MEETING
AT THE MANSION HOUSE, IN PHILADELPHIA,
MONDAY, MAY 4TH, 1835.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow.

May 5th.

The Society met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present:—Captain John Markland, treasurer-general; Colonel Scott, assistant treasurer-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general; Captain James Glentworth, and William Jackson, Esq., delegates from Pennsylvania.

The meeting was adjourned to meet to-morrow, in the Comptroller's room.

May 6th.

The Society met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Comptroller's room.

Present:—In addition to those named yesterday, Captain Patrick Hayes, of Pennsylvania.

A letter from the secretary-general, excusing his absence, on account of sickness, was read.

The treasurer-general in the chair.

The account of the treasurer-general was presented, and found to be correct, leaving a balance of thirty-five dollars in his hands. The account was directed to be entered.

An election for officers was then held, and the following members elected to the offices opposite their names:

Colonel Aaron Ogden, of New Jersey, president-general.

Major General Morgan Lewis, of New York, vice-president-general.

Captain John Markland, of Pennsylvania, treasurer-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

Alexander W. Johnston, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

And the meeting then adjourned.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1838

A STATED MEETING

OF THE

GENERAL SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

WAS HELD AT THE

MANSION HOUSE, IN PHILADELPHIA,

MONDAY, MAY 7TH, 1838.

The meeting was adjourned till to-morrow.

Tuesday, May 8th.

The meeting was held agreeably to adjournment.

Present:—Colonel Aaron Ogden, president-general; A. W. Johnston, secretary-general; William Jackson, Esq., delegate from Pennsylvania State Society.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That until further orders are given on the subject, the stated triennial meetings of the Society be dispensed with, and that future meetings be held when directed by the president-general; or in the event of his absence or death, by the vice-president-general; and that it shall be the duty of the secretary-general to give due notice of the same to the several State Societies of the Cincinnati in existence at such times.

Resolved, That the different State Societies of the Cincinnati be requested annually to appoint delegates to attend any meeting that may be called.

The secretary-general was directed to have the minutes of the Society, as far as it may be found practicable, entered into a book, and presented to the Society at their next meeting.

The following members were then elected officers:

Colonel Aaron Ogden, of New Jersey, president-general.

Major General Morgan Lewis, of New York, vice-president-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.

William Jackson, of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

Alexander W. Johnston, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

The secretary-general was directed to furnish each of the State Societies with a copy of the foregoing resolutions.

Adjourned.

1839

**A Special Meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati,
called by order of the Vice-President-General, was
held at the Mansion House, in Philadelphia, on
Thursday, the 28th November, 1839.**

Present:—Major General Morgan Lewis, of New York, vice-president-general; Alexander W. Johnston, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general; Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general; William Jackson, of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

Delegate from the State Society of Pennsylvania:
General Callender Irvine.

The secretary-general reported that he had recorded the minutes of the several meetings (four in number) held since his appointment as secretary-general, in conformity with the directions of the Society at their last stated meeting, but that he had found it impracticable to have recorded the minutes of the Society prior to 4th May, 1829; whereupon the minutes of the meetings held on 4th May, 1829, on 7th May, 1832, on 4th May, 1835, and on 7th May, 1838, were read and approved of.

The treasurer-general reported that he had received through William Jackson, Esq., assistant treasurer-general, the sum of thirty-two dollars fifty cents, the amount in the treasury at the death of the late treasurer-general, Captain John Markland, paid by his executor.

The Society then proceeded to the election of a president-general, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late venerable and lamented president general, Colonel Aaron Ogden, of New Jersey.

Colonel Scott and Mr. Jackson were appointed tellers, who, after having received the ballots, reported Major General Morgan Lewis, of New York, to be unanimously elected.

An election was then held for a vice-president-general, to supply the vacancy caused by the promotion of the late vice-president-general.

Messrs. Scott and Jackson, tellers, who, having examined the ballots given on the occasion, reported Major William Shute, of New Jersey, to be unanimously elected.

The secretary-general stated that the original subscription lists of the members of the General Society of the Cincinnati were in the possession of the State Society of Pennsylvania, who, it was understood, held likewise the general seal and the copper-plate for printing diplomas; when, on motion of Colonel Scott, seconded by General Irvine, it was

Resolved, That the secretary-general be authorized and directed to apply for and receive the said lists, seal and copper-plate, to preserve them among the archives of the General Society.

On motion of General Irvine, seconded by Colonel Scott, it was

Resolved, as the sense of this meeting, that the present officers of the Society hold their several stations until the first Monday in May, A. D. 1841, and thereafter till a new election takes place.

Adjourned sine die.

1844

A Special Meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati was held at Heads Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 28th November, 1844, in pursuance of circulars addressed by the Secretary-General to the different State Societies, announcing the deaths of the President and Vice-President-General, and requesting that delegates might be appointed to attend said meeting.

Present:—Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general; William Jackson, assistant treasurer-general, and the following delegates:

From Massachusetts:	Horace Binney, Charles S. Daveis.
New York:	Charles A. Clinton, Doctor Edward P. Marcellin.
New Jersey:	George C. Thomas, Colonel Joseph W. Scott.
Pennsylvania:	Colonel Thomas Robinson, John H. Markland.

The treasurer-general was called to the chair.

The credentials of the delegates were produced, when it appeared that Messrs. Horace Binney, Charles S. Daveis and Elijah Vose were duly authorized to represent the State Society of the Cincinnati of Massachusetts; Messrs. Horatio Gates Stevens, Charles A. Clinton and Edward P. Marcellin, that of New York; Messrs. Joseph Ellis Bloomfield, George C. Thomas and Joseph W. Scott, that of New Jersey, and Messrs. Thomas Robinson, John H. Markland and James Caldwell, that of Pennsylvania.

On motion of Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Daveis, it was

Resolved, That Colonel Joseph Scott, the treasurer-general, be authorized to take such measures as he may deem necessary to recover any sum of money due to this Society at any of the public offices in the city of Washington.

A letter from Major William Popham, of New York, stating that he had in his possession the decoration of the president-general—that he held it to be delivered to the next incumbent of that office—was presented by Mr. George C. Thomas, of New Jersey, read, and laid on the table.

An address from Major Popham to the New York State Society, on his inauguration as president thereof, was read, and, on motion of Mr. Daveis, laid upon the table.

The Society then adjourned for an hour.

On again coming to order, Mr. Clinton offered the following resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Daveis and adopted :

Resolved, That the secretary-general be directed to address a circular to the different State Societies recommending that a general celebration by the several State Societies shall be held at New York city, on the 25th day of November, 1845 ; that the different Societies be requested to signify their assent or dissent from this recommendation, and also to designate the number of members that will be present from each Society.

Resolved, That on the acquiescence of all, or such a number of the State Societies as may make such celebration desirable, the officers of the General Society be authorized to make such arrangements for the celebration as they may consider appropriate.

On motion of Mr. Markland, it was

Resolved, That the New York delegation be a sub-committee of arrangement for the celebration on the 25th November next, and that they be authorized to associate with them the Standing Committee of the Cincinnati of New York.

After a short recess the Society proceeded to the election of officers, when Messrs. Daveis, of Massachusetts, and Jackson, of Pennsylvania, having been appointed tellers, reported the following to be duly elected, viz. :

Major William Popham, president-general.

Horace Binney, vice-president-general.

Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general.

Doctor Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general.

William Jackson, assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of Mr. Daveis, seconded by Mr. Clinton, it was

Resolved, That the communication from Major William Popham, president of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati, be placed on file, and that the delegation from New Jersey assure him of the respectful and grateful sentiments with which that communication has been received, and inform him of the testimonial which the General Society, on its

present meeting, has paid to his services and virtues, and convey to him the assurance of the sincere and affectionate reverence in which they will be held.

On motion of Mr. Daveis, seconded by Colonel Robinson, it was
Resolved, That the officers now elected shall continue in office for three years, and thenceforward until a new election takes place.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

Friday, 29th November.

The Society met agreeably to adjournment.

Present:—Messrs. Binney,
Scott,
Johnston,
McEuen,
Robinson,
Jackson,
Daveis.

Mr. Binney offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Clinton:

That the secretary-general be requested to collect from the minutes and proceedings of the Society the different rules and regulations which have from time to time been adopted in regard to the election and tenure of the members and officers thereof.

On motion of Mr. Binney, seconded by Mr. Johnston, the meeting was then adjourned *sine die*.

1848

The General Society of the Cincinnati convened at the United States Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 29th of November, 1848, in pursuance of notice to the several State Societies given by the Secretary, under authority of the Vice-President-General, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Major William Popham, late President-General of the Society, and for other purposes.

Present sixteen members: Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general; Thomas McEuen, M.D., assistant secretary-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general; William Jackson, assistant treasurer-general.

Delegates:

Massachusetts :	Hon. Charles S. Daveis, General Henry A. S. Dearborn, Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Thomas Jackson
New York :	Hon. Hamilton Fish, Edward P. Marcellin, M.D.
New Jersey:	Colonel Joseph W. Scott, George C. Thomas.
Pennsylvania :	Colonel Thomas Robinson, John R. Latimer, John H. Markland, James Glentworth, Thomas M. Willing.

In the absence of the vice-president, Mr. Daveis was called to the chair.
The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The secretary-general reported that he had received notification of the appointment of delegates from six States, viz.: Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and South Carolina.

The chairman appointed Colonels Robinson and Scott a committee to examine the credentials of the delegates present. After a brief space, the committee reported that they had examined the testimonials produced, and had found that four State Societies were duly represented in the present meeting, viz.: Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Colonel Scott reported that, in pursuance of the duties assigned to the New Jersey delegation at the last meeting, they had addressed a communication to Major William Popham, of the New York State Society, announcing his election to the office of president-general, as follows:

“ NEW BRUNSWICK, 2d December, 1844.

“ MAJOR WILLIAM POPHAM :

“ SIR:—At a meeting of the Society of Cincinnati of the United States, at the city of Philadelphia, on the 28th day of November, you were unanimously elected president-general.

“ The Society directed us, the undersigned, to act as their committee, to inform you of the appointment, and to communicate their request that you will accept of it.

“ It is with emotions of veneration and pride that we announce to you the appointment to that honorable office; and it is with reverence inexpressible, that in the name and by the authority of the Cincinnati of the United States, we commit to your care and keeping that badge of office and that decoration which were suspended on the bosom of Washington.

“ We cannot forego this occasion of expressing to you the feelings of the most perfect and respectful attachment, with which we have the honour to be

“ Your obedient servants,

[Signed]

“ J. W. SCOTT,
“ GEO. C. THOMAS.”

“ NEW YORK, December 13th, 1844.

“ GENTLEMEN:—I have peculiar pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your joint letter of the 2d instant., announcing my unanimous election as president-general of that honorable band of patriots of which I have had the honor of being a member of long standing, with their very flattering request of acceptance. For this unprecedented resolution I have not language to express my gratitude; and for the warm and friendly terms in which it has been communicated, you, gentlemen, have my warmest and most grateful acknowledgments.

"Feeling, as I do, that the lamp of life is flickering in the socket, assuring me that I am ill calculated for a successor of that badge of office which has been suspended on the breast of Washington, still I will receive it as a sacred deposit, and cherish it as a talisman, to remind me of the virtues of a man whom Heaven had manifestly created as the Father of his country, and the founder of the greatest and most resplendent empire ever exhibited to the view of the world.

"I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my most profound thanks for the expressions of attachment with which you conclude your letter, and I reciprocate them with the purest sincerity.

"Most respectfully,

"Your sincere friend and humble servant,

[Signed]

"W. POPHAM.

"J. W. Scott, Geo. C. Thomas, Esqrs."

The secretary-general reported that he had addressed the several State Societies on the subject of the contemplated celebration, on the 25th November, 1845, in the city of New York, and communicated their replies to the president-general, who thereupon decided that it was inexpedient to call the Societies together at that time.

The secretary-general made the accompanying report, in conformity with a resolution of the special meeting of November 28th, 1844; which was adopted, and ordered to be printed for the use of members of the State Societies.

"Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to collect from the minutes and proceedings of the Society, the different rules and regulations that have been from time to time adopted in regard to the election and tenure of members and officers thereof."

The secretary-general reports :

"That he has carefully examined all the minutes and proceedings of the Society in his possession, and respectfully submits the following as the result :

"The constitution, accepted by the Society in 1783, provides that the members shall consist of the officers of the American army, as well as those who have resigned with honor, after three years' service in the capacity of officers, or who have been deranged by the resolutions of Congress, upon the several reforms of the army; as those who shall have continued to the end of the war. Those officers who are foreigners, not resident in any of the States, to have their names enrolled by the secretary-general. And declares the Society shall endure as long as they endure, or any of their eldest male posterity, and in failure thereof, the collateral branches who may be judged worthy of becoming its supporters and members.

"This last provision is extended in like manner to the descendants of such officers as had died in the service.

"The admission of honorary members, *for their own lives only*, is also provided for by the constitution; but they are not to exceed in number in each State a ratio of one to four of the officers or their descendants.

"The same instrument directs, that 'in the general meeting, the president, vice-president, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer, and assistant treasurer-generals, shall be chosen to serve until the next meeting.'

"At the first general meeting of the Society, held on the 4th of May, 1784, and continued by adjournment until the 18th of said month, it was unanimously resolved, 'that the manner of voting be by the representation of each State Society.' Subsequently, at said meeting, material alterations in the constitution were agreed to, affecting (*inter alia*) the election and tenure of members and officers. These alterations, however, never received the sanction of the State Societies, as appears by the unanimous adoption, in general meeting, in May, A. D. 1800, of the following report of a committee appointed to examine the records of the Society, and report to said meeting the state of the institution, viz.:

"'That the institution of the Society of the Cincinnati remains as it was originally proposed and adopted by the officers of the American army, at their cantonments on the banks of the Hudson, in 1783.'

"Since the re-acknowledgment of the original institution, the secretary-general finds nothing touching the election or tenure of members, except the following, extracted from the minutes of a general meeting, held on the 4th of May, 1829, viz.:

"'A question having arisen whether, in case of the death of a member having no male issue except a grandson, the issue of a daughter, such grandchild shall be preferred to collaterals; the Society conceives the true construction of the constitution to be, that the grandchild shall be preferred, he being in the direct line of descent.'

"And in relation to the officers of the Society, he finds that since the substitution of special for stated triennial meetings, the officers have been chosen for three years, and thenceforward until a new election takes place.

"A. W. JOHNSTON,
"Secretary-General."

Colonel Scott submitted the following resolutions, which were seconded by Colonel Robinson, viz.:

1st. That a committee be appointed to inquire and report to this Society if it be not expedient and proper to suspend, alter or abrogate the limitation with regard to the admission of members.

2d. To inquire and report what alterations in the by-laws are necessary and proper on the subject of the admission of members.

On motion of Governor Fish, seconded by Mr. Jackson, of Massachusetts, it was resolved, that these resolutions be referred to a committee, which was made to consist of the Chairman Mr. Daveis, Colonel Scott and Governor Fish.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, it was resolved that Mr. C. J. Coltman, now residing in Washington, be authorized to collect the balance due to the Cincinnati, as reported by the treasurer-general.

On motion of Governor Fish, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, Mr. C. S. Daveis was joined to Mr. Coltman for the above purpose, with authority to unite with them a member of Congress who may be willing to contribute his aid.

On motion of Mr. Willing, seconded by Governor Fish, it was resolved to hold the election for general officers at four o'clock; and the meeting was adjourned till that hour.

At four o'clock the meeting was reorganized, when, on motion of Mr. Glentworth, seconded by Colonel Robinson, it was resolved to postpone the election until to-morrow.

Governor Fish submitted the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, which was carried, viz.:

That in all questions to be decided at the present meeting, each State delegation shall be entitled to cast three votes, and each of the officers of the General Society be entitled to cast one vote, and a majority of all the votes thus cast shall be necessary to a decision.

Also, that it be referred to a committee of one member from each State delegation, to report, at the next meeting of the General Society, on what principles or rules the votes shall be taken in the meetings of the General Society hereafter.

The chairman was, on motion, placed on that committee; which was made to consist of Governor Fish, of New York, Colonel Scott, of New Jersey, Mr. Daveis, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Markland, of Pennsylvania; and the meeting then adjourned, to meet the next morning at ten o'clock, in the same place.

November 30th.

The meeting came to order again, pursuant to adjournment, at ten o'clock, A. M., when the chairman appointed Mr. Thomas and Mr. Markland tellers of the election for officers, now in order.

After a ballot for president-general, the tellers reported that there was no election.

A second ballot was then held, and the tellers reported that General Henry A. S. Dearborn, of Massachusetts, was elected president-general.

A ballot was then held for vice-president-general, whereon the tellers reported that the Honorable Hamilton Fish was elected to that office.

It was then decided to vote for the remaining officers in general ballot, after which the tellers reported the following gentlemen to be elected, viz.:—

Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general.

Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general.

William Jackson, assistant treasurer-general.

The chairman then read a communication from General Dearborn, who had been obliged by indisposition to leave the meeting, as follows:

"To CHARLES S. DAVIS, Esq., Presiding Officer of the Meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, in Philadelphia:

" November 29th, 1848.

" DEAR SIR:—I intended to have recommended to the meeting of the representatives of the General Society of the Cincinnati, the passage of a resolution recommending the adoption of a report of the Society of the Cincinnati of South Carolina, of March 4th, 1799, by the several State Societies, for the reasons stated in a letter to the Massachusetts Society, dated May 23d, 1799, and from a belief that unless such a measure is adopted, all the Societies must within a few years be extinguished by a law of nature that is making such fearful ravages in an institution which the existing members cannot but be anxious should be perpetuated, from the profound respect they entertain for its patriotic and gallant founders, and the great benefit which has resulted from the charitable object of its establishment.

" I regret extremely that sudden indisposition has prevented me from attending the meeting, but hope that this suggestion will be favorably received; for unless such a measure is adopted, this time-honored and glorious association will cease to exist within less than the third of a century, or be so reduced in numbers as to be unavailable for the purposes of its organization.

" With sentiments of great respect, etc., etc.,

" H. A. S. DEARBORN."

On motion of Colonel Scott, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, the meeting went into committee of the whole, Mr. Johnston in the chair. After discussion, on motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Mr. Jackson, the committee rose, and reported that in their opinion the communication of General Dearborn should be referred to the committee on Colonel Scott's resolution on the admission of members; which report was accepted, and the communication was referred accordingly.

Colonel Scott asked the Society to supply a diploma (in blank), in place of one destroyed by fire while in possession of the State Society of New Jersey.

On motion of Mr. Glentworth, seconded by Governor Fish, it was resolved, that a blank diploma be placed in the hands of the president of the New Jersey Society, for the purpose mentioned.

On motion of Governor Fish, seconded by Mr. Johnston, it was resolved that the next triennial meeting of the Society be held on the first Wednesday in May, 1851.

And, on motion of Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Jackson, of Pennsylvania, it was resolved, that the said meeting be held in the city of New York.

On motion of Colonel Robinson, seconded by Mr. Jackson, it was resolved that Dr. Marcellin and the Rev. Mr. Baury be a committee to make inquiries respecting the French naval officers, owners of the unclaimed diplomas in the possession of the secretary-general.

On motion of Governor Fish, seconded by Colonel Scott, it was resolved, that it be referred to a committee, consisting of the secretary-general and the assistant secretary-general, together with Mr. Daveis, of Massachusetts, to examine the documents in the custody of the officers of the Society, and select therefrom such documents and papers, together with such facts from the minutes of the Society as they may deem advisable or interesting to have published, and that the committee be authorized to have such documents, papers and minutes printed for the use of the Society, provided the necessary funds can be obtained.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Colonel Scott, it was resolved that the chairman appoint three trustees, of whom the treasurer-general for the time being shall be one, in whose joint names all investments of the funds of the General Society shall be made, and who shall change or transfer such investments to their successors or otherwise, as the Society shall from time to time direct.

Also resolved, that in case of the death or resignation of one of the said trustees, the survivors shall have power to appoint a trustee in his place, to hold office until the next meeting of the Society.

The chairman then appointed Mr. A. W. Johnston and Mr. Markland to be, in conjunction with the treasurer-general, trustees under the above resolution.

On motion of Governor Fish, seconded by Mr. Johnston, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Daveis, of Massachusetts, for the able and dignified manner in which he has discharged the duties of the chair, during the absence of the vice-president from the meeting.

On motion of Colonel Scott, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the delegation from Massachusetts was appointed a committee to announce to General Dearborn his election, and to convey to him the decoration of the president-general, being the eagle "presented by the French sailors to His Excellency the General Washington."

The Society having heard the rough minutes, adjourned.

THOS. McEUEN,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1851

THE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI,

BY APPOINTMENT OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 29TH, 1848,

AND PURSUANT TO A CIRCULAR NOTICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIES OF THE SEVERAL STATE SOCIETIES,

MET IN GENERAL MEETING AT THE IRVING HOUSE,
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK,

THE 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1851,

AND THE SEVENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

There were present the following officers, viz.: General H. A. S. Dearborn, president-general; Hon. Hamilton Fish, vice-president-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general; Thomas McEuen, M. D., assistant secretary-general.

And the following delegates, viz.:

From Massachusetts:	Rev. Alfred L. Baury.
New York:	General Anthony Lamb, Edward P. Marcellin, M.D.,
New Jersey:	Colonel Joseph W. Scott, George C. Thomas.
Pennsylvania:	Colonel Thomas Robinson, General Jacob B. Weidman, John R. Latimer, James Glentworth, John H. Markland, Charles J. Pugh.

The president-general took the chair at 10 o'clock, A. M., and made an appropriate acknowledgment for the honor done him in his election; he being the first among the descendants of the original members so distinguished.

The minutes of the last special meeting held at Philadelphia, November 29th, 1848, were read by the assistant secretary-general, who stated that the secretary-general was prevented from attending by severe sickness, but had made the arrangements necessary for this meeting.

On motion, Colonel Robinson and Mr. Markland were appointed a committee to examine the credentials of delegates.

They reported the following to have been produced, viz.:

From Massachusetts State Society, naming,

Thomas Jackson,
Colonel James W. Sever,
General Henry A. S. Dearborn,
Hon. Charles S. Daveis,
Rev. Alfred L. Baury,
William Perkins.

New York : General Anthony Lamb,
Edward P. Marcellin, M.D.,
General Horatio Gates Stevens.

New Jersey : Colonel Joseph W. Scott,
Robert D. Spencer,
George C. Thomas.

Pennsylvania : Colonel Thomas Robinson,
General Jacob B. Weidman,
John R. Latimer,
James Glentworth,
John H. Markland,
Charles J. Pugh.

Maryland : General John Speer Smith,
John Nelson,
C. C. Jamison,
Ramsay McHenry,
A. H. Kilty,
D. W. Jamison, M.D.,
Commodore Henry E. Ballard,
General Tench Tilghman,
John E. Howard.

The assistant secretary stated that he had been apprised by the secretary of the Society of South Carolina of the appointment of Hon. James Simons and Edward R. Laurens, Esq., to represent that State Society at the present general meeting.

Governor Fish, on behalf of the committee appointed at the meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, held in the city of Philadelphia in November, 1848, to report at the next meeting of the General Society, on what principles or rules the votes shall be taken in the meetings of the General Society, thereafter, respectfully report :

"That the Institution of the Society makes no express provision upon the subject referred. It declares that 'the meetings of the General Society shall consist of its officers and a representation from each State Society in number not exceeding five.' The first general meeting of the Society, held in May, 1784, *Resolved*, 'That the manner of voting be by

the representation of each State Society,' which accordingly cast a single vote. This rule was in conformity with the mode of voting in Congress under the Articles of Confederation then in force, and was probably adopted in consequence of that conformity. It was followed in the Society for some years after the Constitution of the United States had superseded the Articles of Confederation, and had introduced into Congress a different representation, as well as a different mode of voting from that prescribed by the Confederation. When, or by what authority a change was introduced into the Society in this particular, the committee is not prepared to say: but for many years past, the practice seems to have been the same as that which was adopted by resolution at the last general meeting of the Society, viz., to allow to each State delegation three votes, and to each of the officers of the General Society one vote.

"As the Institution of the Society makes its officers a component part of the general meeting, there seems to be reason for a claim upon their part to a voice in the decision of such questions as shall be brought to a vote at its meetings.

"But it may be questioned whether in view of the reduced number of the State Societies, and the fact that but a portion of those remaining are usually represented at the general meetings, while the officers are generally in attendance, the rule which was adopted by the last meeting may not give too large a relative voice to the officers of the Society.

"To meet this objection, as the maximum representation of a State Society is limited to five, your committee recommend that for the future in all elections, and also upon all questions to be decided by the vote of the General Society, arising upon debate or by resolution, on which a division shall be asked by any delegate or officer present, each representation from a State Society shall be entitled to cast five votes, and each officer of the General Society shall be entitled to cast one vote,—the right of voting to be exercised only by such representation or such officer as shall be present at the time the vote shall be taken,—and the yeas and nays upon any question (except in elections) to be entered on the minutes, at the desire of any three members present.

"The committee present herewith for the consideration and action of the Society, an ordinance in conformity with the views above submitted.

" HAMILTON FISH,
" J. W. SCOTT,
" J. H. MARKLAND,
" C. S. DAVIS.

"New York, May 7, 1851."

ORDINANCE.

Be it ordained by the General Society of the Cincinnati, that all elections of the officers of this Society shall be by ballot, and that in such elections each representation present from a State Society shall be entitled to cast

five votes; and each of the officers of the General Society who shall be present shall be entitled to cast one vote; and the majority of all the votes thus cast shall be necessary to an election.

And be it further ordained, that in the decision of all resolutions and questions submitted to the action of the General Society, the vote shall (upon the request of any delegate from a State Society, or of any officer present) be taken in the following manner, viz.: each representation present from a State Society shall be entitled to cast five votes; and each of the officers of the General Society who shall be present shall be entitled to cast one vote; and a majority of all the votes thus cast shall be necessary for an affirmative decision. And upon any question thus brought to a vote, the yeas and nays shall be entered on the minutes, at the desire of of any three members present, whether delegates or officers.

Which report was accepted, and the ordinance unanimously adopted.

Dr. Marcellin made a report from the committee on diplomas of French naval officers: That their efforts to discover the persons to whom the diplomas belong were ineffectual.

The committee was continued, and the secretary-general added thereto. (It now consists of the Rev. A. L. Baury, Dr. Marcellin, and the secretary-general.)

On behalf of the committee to examine and print documents, a verbal report was made by the assistant secretary-general, in the absence, from sickness, of the other members of the committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Colonel Scott, that the president-general and Mr. Markland be added to the committee; at the request of the president-general, the question was put to the meeting by the assistant secretary-general, and agreed to unanimously.

(Committee now consists of the secretary-general, assistant secretary-general, Mr. Daveis, the president-general, and Mr. Markland.)

Colonel Scott made a report from the committee on the admission of members (appointed at the last meeting), the chairman of the committee, Mr. Daveis, being absent.

On motion of Colonel Scott, the meeting then went into committee of the whole, Governor Fish in the chair, who, after the president-general had resumed the chair, reported the committee had made some progress, and begged leave to sit again.

The meeting then, on motion of Colonel Robinson, adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 8th.

The Society met at nine o'clock.

Present:—As yesterday, and Mr. Daveis, of Massachusetts, now took his seat.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Colonel Robinson, that an election for officers of the Society be now held, it was so resolved. The president-general appointed the last named gentlemen tellers and judges of the election; they, after examining the ballots, reported the following members to be elected to the offices opposite their names:

President-general, General Henry A. S. Dearborn, of Massachusetts.
 Vice-president-general, Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York.
 Secretary-general, Alexander W. Johnston, Esq., of Pennsylvania.
 Treasurer-general, Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey.
 Assistant secretary-general, Thomas McEuen, M. D., of Pennsylvania.
 Assistant treasurer-general, John H. Markland, Esq., of Pennsylvania.
 The president-general offered his thanks to the meeting for the continuance of the honor conferred on him.

The treasurer-general made an acknowledgment of the same nature, and paid an elegant tribute to the merits and services of the secretary-general, now unfortunately absent on account of sickness.

The account of the treasurer-general was presented, read and approved of, showing a balance due him of \$76.77.

The Society of Cincinnati, U. S., in Account with J. W. Scott, Treasurer-General.

	CR.	
1839. Nov. 28.	By cash paid Joseph Head, for use of room, .	\$3 00
1845. Feb.	" " expenses to and at Washington, and returning,	51 38
" May	By cash paid expenses to and at Washington, and returning,	46 25
	By cash paid postages,	1 84
	" " postages and advertising, . . .	6 80
		<hr/>
		\$109 27

DR.

1839. Nov. 28.	To cash received from John H. Markland, Esq., executor of Captain John Markland, late treasurer-general, by the hands of William Jackson, Esq.,	32 50
	Balance due J. W. Scott, treasurer-general, . .	\$76 77

New York, May 7th, 1851.

The meeting then took up Colonel Scott's report from the committee on the admission of members, and, on motion of Colonel Scott, went into committee of the whole; after discussion, the committee rose, reported that they had considered the subject referred to them, agreed to the general principles embodied in the report, also those in a paper submitted

by Mr. Daveis; and offered the following resolution, viz.: That the reports be referred back to the committee for the purpose of condensing and combining the two documents.

Which was agreed to; and on motion the meeting adjourned to meet at three o'clock in the afternoon.

At the hour stated the Society came to order.

The report of the committee on the admission of members being in order, Colonel Scott stated that, in consequence of the very short time allowed it had not been possible to get the reports into form for the immediate action of the meeting. He moved that the committee be instructed to have the reports printed, and at least fifty copies sent to each State Society.

The same officer then read the Ordinance (already proposed by the committee on the admission of members), in a condensed form.

Mr. Markland offered a substitute.

The meeting then, on motion of Mr. Markland, went into committee of the whole. Governor Fish in the chair.

Which, after discussion, rose, and reported they had considered the Ordinance and substitute, amended them, and now recommended them as amended.

Which report was accepted, and the Ordinance reported, by the committee of the whole, as follows, and unanimously adopted.

AN ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO THE SUCCESSION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

I. Be it ordained by the Society of the Cincinnati, that lineal succession to membership shall be according to the rules of inheritance at the common law, except only as in their canons it is otherwise provided,—and provided that none but males shall at any time be admitted to membership.

II. In lineal succession, the officer of the army of the Revolution who is or was a member, or who had a right to become a member, shall in all cases be deemed and taken as the propositus from whom succession shall be derived.

III. No person under the age of twenty-one years shall be admitted a member. But the right of membership in lineal succession having been established, the use of that right shall remain in abeyance until the applicant shall attain the full age of twenty-one years.

IV. Hereafter all male descendants of officers of the Revolutionary army may be admitted to membership by any of the State Societies; but such admission shall be upon terms; that is to say, each and every of the

male descendants of the said officers so to be admitted, except such as shall or may be entitled in lineal succession from his father, or other progenitor, shall pay into the treasury of the State Society into which he shall be admitted the sum of sixty dollars.

V. The General Society of the Cincinnati shall have power and authority to admit honorary members at their discretion.

VI. It shall be the duty of the secretary of each of the State Societies to transmit annually, between the fourth day of July and the first day of October, to the secretary-general, a certified list of all the officers and members of the State Society to which he shall belong.

VII. Each and every of the State Societies shall pay into the treasury of the General Society the sum of ten dollars, for the account of the admission of every member who shall be admitted under or by virtue of the fourth Canon before mentioned.

VIII. In case of an application for admission as a member, by right of descent in the lineal succession as recognized in the first of these Canons, the State Society to which such application be presented shall be of opinion that from any cause the applicant is unworthy to be admitted, they may decline to admit such applicant, and hold the right of succession in abeyance.

The treasurer-general made a communication respecting the sum to the credit of the Cincinnati, on the books of the Treasury of the United States: which subject was referred to him by the meeting of the Society in 1844.

Mr. Daveis, appointed in 1848 to act conjointly on this affair, was authorized to make a written report on the subject, to be put on the minutes.

(This report was not received when the minutes were printed.)

The vice-president-general read a letter just received by him from Elisha Whittlesey, Esq., Comptroller of the Treasury of the United States, stating that the amount to the credit of the Cincinnati would be paid to the Society, on condition that a bond should be executed by two persons, satisfactory to the Comptroller.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Markland, the treasurer-general, assistant treasurer-general, and Governor Fish, were appointed a committee on the communication from the Comptroller of the Treasury, to perform what may be required to obtain from the Treasury the funds there to the credit of the Society, and to report such measures as they may deem it expedient for the Society to adopt in relation to said funds.

The committee reported that they had filled up the bonds, of which the form was furnished by the Comptroller of the Treasury, with the names of the treasurer-general, Hon. Hamilton Fish, and John H. Markland, Esq., which report, with the following four resolutions, were adopted.

1. *Resolved*, That Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general of this Society, be authorized to receive payment of the following certificates and interest thereon, now credited in the books of the Treasury of the United States in the name of the Cincinnati Society, (the same having been heretofore credited on the Loan Office books for the State of Georgia, and not having been applied for was returned as unclaimed and became payable at the Treasury agreeable to the rules for that purpose prescribed,) viz. :

The final dividend due 1st October, 1818, on \$890.00 old 6 per cent. stock,	\$13 28
The final dividend due 1st October, 1824, on \$445.00 deferred 6 per cent. stock,	6 63
The amount of one 3 per cent. certificate, payable in	570 70
Unclaimed interest and principal returned unclaimed,	<u>1,101 48</u>
	\$1,692 08

and to give the necessary and requisite vouchers for the same.

2. *Resolved*, That the treasurer-general, on receipt of the money aforesaid, shall pay and transfer the same to the trustees appointed by resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Society to be by them invested agreeable to that resolution.

3. *Whereas* the treasurer-general, Hon. Hamilton Fish, and J. H. Markland, Esq., have consented to enter into the bond required to be given for the foregoing moneys, therefore, *Resolved*, That this Society hereby agree to indemnify and save harmless the obligors in the said bond named from all liability incurred by them by reason thereof, and pledge the faith of the Society therefor.

4. *Resolved*, That the interest arising upon the investment of the moneys to be received under the foregoing resolutions, shall be applied, as the same shall accrue and become paid, to the formation of a sinking fund, for the purpose of paying the debts now due and owing by the Society; and that the treasurer-general and assistant treasurer-general be authorized to audit the accounts against the Society in favor of the secretary-general and assistant secretary-general, and to ascertain the amounts due to them respectively: and that the sums due to those officers, and also the balance this day reported to be due from the Society to the treasurer-general, be paid from the said sinking fund, *pro rata*, as the said interest shall be received.

Mr. Baury reported that the Massachusetts delegation had complied with the charge of the last meeting, to inform General Dearborn of his election as president-general, and to convey to him the decoration presented by the "French Sailors to his Excellency General Washington"; and read a letter in acknowledgment from General Dearborn.

The report and the letter of General Dearborn were ordered to be put on the file of the Society's papers.

On motion of Governor Fish, it was resolved, that the secretary-general be requested to make a draft on each of the State Societies, represented at this meeting, for their equal proportion of the expenses of the meeting, including all the expenses of printing the proceedings.

On motion of Mr. Glentworth, it was then resolved, that the next meeting of the Society should be held at Baltimore, on the third Wednesday in May, 1854, in the city of Baltimore, Maryland.

And after a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baury, and an address by the president-general, the Society adjourned at six o'clock, P. M.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE, ETC.

The committee appointed at the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, held in Philadelphia in November, 1848, to which were referred the following resolutions, viz.: "1. That a committee be appointed to inquire and report to this Society if it be not expedient and proper to suspend, alter or abrogate the limitation with regard to the admission of members; 2. To inquire and report what alterations in the by-laws are necessary and proper on the subject of the admission of members;" and also, a communication from General H. A. S. Dearborn, which was read to that meeting and entered upon the minutes, respectfully report:

That they have approached the important and delicate subject committed to them with careful and anxious solicitude, and have endeavored to give it the most attentive consideration.

For this purpose they have deemed it proper, in the first place, to look back to the original foundation of the institution as established by the officers of the American army at the cantonment on the Hudson river, in May, 1783, on the eve of the disbandment of that army. Next, to consider the interpretation given to that institution by those who have preceded us, and more especially by those who were actors in the scenes which created those ties of friendship and affection which the institution was designed to transmit and to perpetuate; and then to look to the present usage, and to the condition of the Society and the several branches, in order to see how far such usage and condition may be in unison with the fundamental principles of the institution and with the intentions of its founders, and whether any alterations are now required.

As this Society is at present constituted, the extent of its powers to make any radical change in its principles of organization is questionable.

The original institution breathes in every line a spirit of patriotism and of devotion to country, and of the most ardent love and affection among its members; but it is evident that it was framed by men who were more familiar with the camp than with the precision and formalities usual in preparing legal documents. It looked to general results, well understood by those who were parties to its formation, but not expressed with the

precision which leaves no room for doubt in the minds of those who are to obtain their knowledge of its intentions only from its perusal.

In May, 1783, the officers of the American army did, in the most solemn manner, associate, constitute and combine themselves into *one* Society of Friends, *to endure as long as they shall endure, or any of their eldest male posterity, and in failure thereof, the collateral branches who may be judged worthy of becoming its supporters and members.*

This Society (being "*one*") was, "*for the sake of frequent communications,*" to "be divided into State Societies, and those again into such districts as shall be directed by the State Society." It is not known whether any of the State Societies, except that of New York, was ever divided into District Societies. Such sub-division was made in New York, although it has long since ceased.

The institution makes no provision for any alteration or amendment; nor does it define any power as belonging to the General Society over the State Societies, and it does not seem to have contemplated the possibility of any conflict between them; neither will this committee entertain any such possibility. And they recommend, therefore, that the views which they may embody in this report, and in an ordinance which they submit herewith, if adopted by the General Society, be transmitted to the several State Societies for their approval; and that the same be not considered as binding upon either the General Society or any of the State Societies until approved, ratified and adopted by the State Societies yet remaining extant. The necessity and importance of this course is apparent, from the fact that some of the State Societies are incorporated, and thus have an existence independent of the original institution. The committee hope and believe that none of the provisions which are embodied in the ordinance reported herewith will be found to be at all inconsistent with the chartered powers and objects of such of the Societies as have obtained acts of incorporation; and that they will tend to a harmonious practical conformity to the principles of the institution as they have been understood and handed down to us.

The best answer to be given to the inquiry proposed to the committee is not by any innovation, but by the just interpretation of those principles that prevailed during the life-time of the founders. They laid down certain great principles, which we hold sacred and inviolable; our feelings, our judgment and our duty concur in inhibiting the suggestion of change in them.

The Society of the Cincinnati was not limited to the lives of its founders, or to those of their immediate families. It was established as a Society of Friends, *to endure as long as any of their eldest male posterity, and on failure thereof, the collateral branches who might be judged worthy of becoming its members.*

Although these terms did not, by their own force, provide any distinct and positive limitation, relating as they did more precisely to the *durability* of the Society, they certainly contemplated the principle of hereditary succession in the lineage of the first founder; providing against an extinction of the Society on the failure of the eldest male branch of his posterity by embracing, under the description of "collaterals," all his other male descendants, not confined to any specific line (male or female) of derivation.

The original design, or idea, seems to have been of an institution bearing resemblance to a Military Order, based upon the hereditary principle, observing primarily, but not exclusively, the right of primogeniture.

To relieve it from the objection to which this distinction was obnoxious, at the first general meeting which was held after its establishment, in the city of Philadelphia, in 1784, the institution was proposed to be remodeled by omitting, among other things, any provision, in terms, upon the subject in question; leaving it to the prudence of after times to determine the best method of its continuance, in order to carry out its true principles, resting, as it did, upon the two great pillars of Friendship and Charity—upon their most permanent foundation.

These were the sentiments of Washington, announced and enjoined in an earnest circular communication subscribed by him, and addressed to the different State Societies.

History has given her testimony that this recommendation was complied with, notwithstanding the dissent of one or two of the State Societies. But the fact, though stated by Marshall, and repeated by Guizot, was not quite so. The principle of hereditary succession was too vital to the institution to be surrendered to temporary prejudice or passing excitement; and experience has shown how unnecessary would have been the sacrifice, and how much it would have exceeded the occasion.

The assent of the requisite number of the State Societies not having been obtained, the institution remained unaltered, and it was accordingly declared, at the meeting of the General Society in 1800, that the institution continued to rest on its original foundation.

It is to be observed that the proposed alteration of 1784 did not absolutely abolish the principle of hereditary succession. It was merely silent on the subject. The strong opinion of the General Society could not fail to have its weight; and, notwithstanding the repugnance felt to the relinquishment of this principle, the State Societies most averse to it manifested no reluctance to consent to its reasonable modifications, so as to remove any just ground of exceptions against the institution on that score, and to propitiate the confidence of the country in its favor, by renouncing the privilege of primogeniture—so far as that was understood to be provided by it—without intending any further deviation from the principles of hereditary succession.

On this ground the General and State Societies may be understood to meet. As the dissenting State Societies were not unwilling to adopt the recommendation of the General Society, as it was understood (with this modification), as a construction of the original institution; so, on the other hand, it might be well inferred that the General Society would consent to preserve the hereditary principle of succession insisted upon, with this qualification; and thus the institution might be considered as standing upon its proper original ground.

At a meeting of the State Society of New York the proceedings of the general meeting of 1784 were referred to a committee, which reported adversely to the alterations recommended to be made in the original constitution of the Society.

In the report presented by Colonel Hamilton in relation to this point, it is stated that the "provision intended to be made appears to be made in terms not sufficiently explicit; and as far as it may intend an hereditary succession by right of *primogeniture* is liable to this objection, that it refers to birth what ought to belong to merit only; a principle inconsistent with the genius of the Society, founded on Friendship and Patriotism."

The State Society of Massachusetts, which first accorded and then revoked its consent to the proposition, as early as 1787, proposed to supply the places of deceased members by election among the eldest male heirs *generally*.

That of New Hampshire, the same year, proposed the liberal manner of choosing among the descendants of a deceased member by nomination of such of his sons as would be most likely to fill the place of the ancestor with credit.

Passing over other Societies, of whose doings the committee are not so well informed, the State Society of South Carolina went farther, and proposed that all sons of an original member, and all his descendants, whether through the male or female line, who should be considered worthy, should be capable of becoming members. It was at first the usage in that Society to admit the eldest male descendant to become a full member, and allow any of his brothers to be ballotted for and become honorary members. That distinction was afterwards done away, and all descendants in the same degree were placed upon a par.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Society, convoked upon the death of Washington, in January, 1800, it was recommended that, instead of the hereditary succession provided by the original institution, vacancies should be supplied by the *election* of members by ballot—in which the eldest male heir of a deceased officer should be the first candidate—and a majority of three-fourths be requisite to admission. In case of failure, the next eldest male heir to become the next candidate, and so on until a choice should be effected.

The committee may here advert to the original distinction marked between the "eldest male posterity," and the "collateral branches"; that is, in terms, between the *eldest* and *collateral* male branches. It is obvious, as used in this connection, that the word "collateral" meant *collateral* to "eldest male"; in other words, the term denoted the younger branches of the male posterity, and it did not intend to embrace, except perhaps, remotely, brothers or nephews of original members.

But by the usage in several Societies, adapting the term "collateral" in its more broad and comprehensive signification—not confined to the qualified use of it in its immediate natural connection—it has been extended to embrace the whole stock of descent derived from the ancestor of the original member. This construction has prevailed from an early period (the committee are informed) in the State Societies of Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The admission of nephews has been extended in Massachusetts and New York, to one claiming through a sister of an original member. To this interpretation we are indebted for some of our most valued and distinguished members.

The only State Society in which it is understood that this more extensive construction in favor of more distant collaterals has not been adopted, is that of South Carolina.

The Constitution of that Society admits all lineal descendants of an original member alike, whether through sons or daughters, without distinction, as already mentioned, and lets in the younger branches equally with the eldest. This Society recognized no other kind of collaterals than those originally intended. Rejecting the sense in which the term was originally employed, as done in South Carolina, places all the descendants of the progenitor upon the same footing.

It is sufficiently evident that the State Societies—though some have adhered to the original limitation—have felt themselves at liberty to exercise some latitude in respect to the admission of members, so long as they did not depart from the course of hereditary succession. It has been shown that the Society of South Carolina, which first admitted the claim through the female line, has not only discarded all distinction between brothers, but has allowed the admission of several brothers at the same time. It is also understood that the Maryland Society allows the admission of different generations, as father and son—and perhaps grandson)—together. The committee are not acquainted with any other usage of this extent.

In this connection the committee would refer to the action of the General meeting, held in Philadelphia, in May, 1829, when, "a question having arisen, whether, in case of the death of a member having no male issue except a grandson, the issue of a daughter, such grandson shall be preferred to male collaterals; the Society conceived the true construction of the Constitution to be, that the grandson shall be preferred, he being in the direct line of descent."

Doing away with the apparent distinction drawn between eldest and collateral in the lineal descent, and opening the succession equally to all in the direct line of descent of the first founder, allows room for choice on the ground of merit, and leaves the question solely, *who shall fill the place with most advantage?* Proper distinction is still to be maintained between those in direct line and other more remote collaterals—in favor of the former, so long as any of the former are found worthy. And there will be no danger that the preference given to the eldest will not prevail, as long as those proper feelings of mankind which point to the eldest son as the natural successor of the father in the seat of honor, while there is no other more worthy to enjoy it, shall continue. That a due regard will always be paid to the predilections of the founders of the institution, we may safely trust to the sentiments of filial piety and reverence in their descendants. The prescriptive preference of the eldest son has been religiously observed by most of the State Societies. That the fundamental principle has been faithfully preserved, and that the institution stands on its hereditary ground, the best attestation is, that while the original members are almost gone, their places are chiefly filled by their eldest lineal descendants.

It cannot be denied that whatever liberty has been allowed derives a sanction from the character which several of the State Societies have acquired by acts of incorporation, giving them the right of establishing their own rules of admission and succession; and that this step was taken by the recommendation of the General Society, with a particular view to those points. By these acts those Societies are placed, in that respect, on a common footing with other eleemosynary corporations. These acts, which incorporate the original members and their associates, and contemplate a perpetual succession, also recognize the historical origin of the institution, and the character of the founders as officers of the American army at the close of the Revolution; and provide for the disposition of its funds according to the will and intention of the original donors.

It is in vain, in the present diversity of practice, to exact a uniform rule, or extract from the variety more than a general principle; or to insist upon any ground but one that shall embody the spirit, and embrace the objects of the original institution in its comprehensive scope, limiting the succession to the blood of the Revolution.

The committee is, therefore, brought to the conclusion, that the institution remains on the original foundation of 1783, subject, however, to some modification of the strict technical construction of the terms therein used with regard to the hereditary succession, congenial to the spirit of our civil institutions, and in accordance with the sense of the General Society, and of the State Societies, as expressed in reference to the proposed amendment of 1784; that the right of succession is not absolute even in the eldest son, but is subject to the right of the Society to judge, whether he be "worthy of becoming its supporter and member." That

this right of the Society to judge of the merit of the applicant applies equally to the eldest son, and to the "collateral branches," descending from the original members; and thus that the right of succession, by title of primogeniture, is wholly subordinate to the claim of worth and merit on the part of the applicant.

The committee believe this to have been the final intention of the framers of the Institution, and also to be a fair construction of the language of that instrument. At all events, the silent action and usage of the Society, in all its branches, for considerably more than half a century, has given a construction to this principle which cannot well now be questioned.

In the ordinance submitted herewith, expression is distinctly given to this construction.

It remains for the committee to consider that branch of the subject referred to them, which is suggested by the letter of the president-general read at the last meeting and to endeavor to propose a practical remedy in conformity with the views above expressed.

The diminished number of the members upon the rolls of the remaining State Societies, and the fact that seven out of the original thirteen State Societies have long since ceased to exist, furnish a too painful justification of the apprehension suggested by the communication referred to the committee. But this must not be. This Society was founded by our patriotic and gallant fathers. When the tempest raged and the storm of war, in all its violence and all its fury, beat upon the land, they were the brave and successful defenders of their country. They established this institution—their exalted liberality devised and furnished an elevating and dignified charity, more than twice-blessed—they impressed upon it their own motto and injunction, '*estō perpetua*', and they have bequeathed it to us—a trust, sacred and honorable. We cherish an honest pride in its integrity; and as we exult in the memories of our fathers, and in their virtues, we must not disappoint their hopes. The Society of the Cincinnati must be preserved. But the difficulty presents itself, how shall our numbers be enlarged?

The committee believe that they express the feeling of every member of the Society, when they declare their entire unwillingness to extend the right of membership in any succession, whether lineal or collateral, beyond the descendants or other representatives of the officers of the American army during the war of the revolution.

From them it is hoped and believed that the Society may be recruited to its original strength and vigor.

The committee has neither been willing, nor felt itself at liberty to suggest any rule which should conflict with the great principles which were laid down in the establishment of the institution. These they regard as sacred, inviolable.

The sources whence increased numbers are hoped for under the plan recommended by the committee, and embraced in the Ordinance reported herewith, are two-fold. 1. The descendants of officers of the American army of the revolution, who did not themselves become members of the Society. 2. The admission of all the adult male descendants of the original members of the Society, instead of confining the representation to a single descendant.

It was ordained by the founders of the Society that all the officers of the American army who had resigned with honor after three years' service in the capacity of officers, or who had been deranged by the resolutions of Congress, upon the several reforms of the army, or who continued to the end of the war, had a right to become parties to the institution; provided the right should be asserted, and certain terms complied with, within a specified time. The committee take it for granted, that the first resolution submitted to their consideration has direct reference to that proviso, and the limitation therein contained.

There were doubtless good reasons, at the time, for the enactment of this limitation. But when we consider the composition of that army, the privations which it had endured, the want of means of its members, the uncertainty of their pay, the depreciation of the currency in which that pay was received, and the strong and pressing calls for aid and support of the families of those who had devoted all to the cause they had espoused, we find abundant reasons why many did not avail of the privilege to become parties to the institution or the objects which it contemplated.

The abrogation of this limitation does not conflict with any principle embraced in the organization of the Society, and is as entirely within the competence of the Cincinnati of the present day as its enactment was within that of their predecessors in 1783. The question is one of expediency, with many claims of justice, and more of friendship and of sympathy answering in the affirmative.

The committee would here refer to the practice of at least one of the State Societies. The New York Society, in many instances, and for many years, continued to admit as members officers otherwise entitled but who had not availed themselves of the privilege within the limited time. They judged of the sufficiency of the reason for not having joined within the prescribed time; but considered themselves at liberty to remit the prohibition arising from the non-claim of the party within the limit of time.

The committee report a canon, virtually removing the disability created by the original limitation, leaving the subject within the discretion of that State Society to which application shall be made by the descendants of any of the officers, contemplated in the original articles, but who failed to avail themselves of the privilege within the time thereby limited.

The original institution does not restrict the representation of the officer of the army who became a member of the Society, to a *single*

descendant of such officer. The Society is "to endure as long as they shall endure, or any of their eldest male posterity, etc., who may be judged worthy of becoming its supporters and members." This language, it may be argued, admits of more than one of such posterity being admitted; and it has been shown that the practice in at least one State Society has been to admit several representatives of the original stock at the same time; and this practice is entirely in accordance with the spirit of that design of the founders of the institution, which sought to "perpetuate as well the remembrance of a vast event as the friendships formed under the pressure of common danger," and "particularly to extend acts of beneficence towards those officers and their families, who unfortunately may be under the necessity of receiving it."

It will be observed that the ordinance reported herewith proposes to recognize, in terms, the right of any State Society to admit all the adult male descendants of any officer of the American army of the Revolution, who was or who was entitled to have become a member of the Society, but not the absolute right of such descendants to claim admission without regard to the judgment of the Society.

With these observations, the committee submit the result of their deliberations, in the form of an ordinance, for the consideration of the General Society.

Should this ordinance, in whole or in part, meet the approbation of the General Society, or be susceptible of amendment so as to secure such approbation, it will, in the opinion of the committee, be necessary that it be transmitted in the form eventually approved, to the several State Societies for their approval and ratification; and if approved and adopted by them, the committee recommend that it be considered and declared a rule for future action in the admission of members to the Society of the Cincinnati.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES S. DAVIS,
J. W. SCOTT,
HAMILTON FISH.

New York, May 7th, 1851.

The foregoing report is printed in pursuance of the following entry upon the minutes of the meeting of the General Society:—

"Colonel Scott stated that, in consequence of the very short time allowed, it had not been possible to get the reports into form for the immediate action of the meeting. He moved that the committee be instructed to have the report printed, and at least fifty copies sent to each State Society."

1854

THE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI,

BY APPOINTMENT OF THE

TRIENNIAL MEETING OF MAY 7TH, 1851,

AND IN CONFORMITY WITH A CIRCULAR NOTICE, ADDRESSED BY
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE SECRETARIES OF THE
SEVERAL STATE SOCIETIES,

MET IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE, AT BARNUM'S HOTEL,

ON THE 17TH OF MAY, 1854

The following officers were present :

Honorable Hamilton Fish, vice-president-general; Alexander W. Johnston, secretary-general; Thomas McEuen, M.D., assistant secretary-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general; John H. Markland, assistant treasurer-general.

And the following delegates, viz.:

From Massachusetts : Honorable Charles S. Daveis,
Frederic Tudor,
Colonel James W. Sever.

New York : Honorable Hamilton Fish,
Dr. Ed. P. Marcellin,
Henry Floyd Talmadge.

New Jersey : Colonel Joseph W. Scott,
George C. Thomas.

Pennsylvania : Colonel James Glentworth,
John R. Latimer,
General Jacob B. Weidman,
Robert Adams,
Charles L. Coltman.

Maryland : General John Speer Smith,
C. C. Jamison,
Ramsay McHenry,
Augustus H. Kilty, U.S.N.,
General Tench Tilghman.

The vice-president-general took the chair soon after ten o'clock, and no objection being made, the minutes of the last general triennial meeting were read by the secretary-general.

On motion of Colonel Scott, it was resolved to amend the minutes, by inserting after the ordinance providing for the election of officers, and the manner of voting in meetings of the General Society, "which report was accepted, and the ordinance unanimously adopted."

The vice-president then stated the melancholy cause of his presiding at the present meeting: the death of the late president-general, General Henry A. S. Dearborn, at Portland, Maine, on the 29th July, 1851.

On motion made and carried, that the presiding officer appoint a committee to examine and report the credentials of delegates, Mr. Markland and Colonel Sever were appointed to be that committee.

They reported the following to be the delegates of the several State Societies:

Massachusetts : Honorable Charles S. Daveis,
Frederic Tudor,
Colonel James W. Sever.

New York : Honorable Hamilton Fish,
Ed P. Marcellin, M.D.,
Henry Floyd Talmadge.

New Jersey : Colonel Joseph W. Scott,
George C. Thomas,
Robert D. Spencer.

Pennsylvania : Colonel James Glentworth,
John R. Latimer,
General Jacob B. Weidman,
Robert Adams,
Charles L. Coltman.

Maryland : General John Speer Smith,
W. S. Williams,
John E. Howard,
Commodore H. E. Ballard,
C. C. Jamison,
Ramsay McHenry,
Augustus H. Kilty, U.S.N.,
General Tench Tilghman.

South Carolina : Honorable James Simons,
Wilmot G. De Saussure,
J. Harleston Read.

Colonel Sever, on the part of the delegation of the Society of Massachusetts, read an address that had been made to that Society, and the

resolutions adopted by it, on the announcement of the melancholy intelligence by the vice-president-general, of the death of the late president-general, which address and resolutions were, on motion, ordered to be entered on the minutes, and are as follows:

“SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI OF MASSACHUSETTS.

“The Cincinnati of Massachusetts have learned with sincere grief the decease of their lamented brother, General Henry Alexander Scammel Dearborn, late president-general of the Society, and respond with deep sensibility to the impressive announcement of the event by their vice-president-general, the Honorable Hamilton Fish.

“While one sentiment of sorrow and respect pervades this wide community, while city and country unite in expression of a common loss, and various associate bodies offer their appropriate tributes, the members of this institution feel the force of too many fresh and powerful recollections to be kept from taking part, or being the last to join, in the general testimonial.

“While all around is thus redolent and vocal of rare departed worth, there needs no added strain of eulogy from us. We aim not to recite his virtues nor recall his services, but to record the sincere token of our honor and affection.

“General Dearborn was a marked and a virtuous man. Aloof from all ignoble objects,—elevated in character,—superior to fortune,—he stood conspicuous as one of the Corinthian pillars of society;—a classic and lofty column, lending grace and stability to the structure. Distinguished alike by talent and attainment, he shone in every sphere it was his to fill with a dignity and purity eminently his own.

“His was a genius to create and illustrate,—to develop and adorn. The material universe filled his mind with magnificent conceptions of its great archetype. Nature revealed herself to his inquiring view in one unbounded province of fertility and beauty. With a mind devoted to the cause of the most liberal culture—animated with a spirit of indefatigable research—whatever was reflected from the light of other times,—whatever gleamed among the gathered stores of learning and experience conducive to its best results, contributed their ripe and copious resources.

“The wonderful achievements of art, the marvellous discoveries of science, kindled within him responsive conceptions, which he sought to embrace and to realize in congenial forms of social improvement and benevolent enterprise. He delighted in all that had for its end the instruction, elevation, and wholesome gratification of the community. Whatever tended to the advancement of useful knowledge or the diffusion of elegant taste,—to the extension of commercial intercourse, and to promote the industrial principles of national prosperity;—whatever fostered the expansion of all those kindly and generous influences that cast a

cheerful beam upon existence, or shed a soothing balm upon its ills;—whatever went, in a word, to raise, refine, relieve, and ameliorate the human lot—all found in him an active advocate and friend, with a constancy and ardor neither dulled by age nor damped by indifference, and an oblivion of no actual interest but his own.

“Viewing life as the province of virtue, he needed no further incentive to the career by which its activity is crowned. He saw no bound to the good that could be done within its given space, and set no limit to the part assigned to himself. Duty with him was an ever active, animating spring, no less impulsive than enlightened. Its law was one of labor to him, as long as the day lasted; one that indeed became its own abundant refreshment and reward. Multiplied and enriched as were its monuments, they were but fragmentary portions, as it were, of his existence, indicating the direction and attesting the constancy of his aspirations. Its varied shafts and buoyant arches rose into air in all their harmonious proportions, upheaving the dome that lifted and swelled with this salient expansive force to its own auspicious culmination. This was the master principle of his nature. Its conscious influence, illustrated by these congenial and characteristic efforts, was predominant in all its departments. In the more active walks of social usefulness, alike as in the higher spheres of public service or the sequestered pathways of private life, its behests were all fulfilled with equal loyalty, fidelity, and promptitude. Whatever he undertook was with a single eye to its true end. Upon whatever bent, it was an orb that beamed with unblenching keenness. Whoever might falter in the course, his steadfast moral and civil courage did not fail nor waver upon any emergency. He stood upright and self-supported, even if he stood alone. Ardent and bold in his plans, earnest and intrepid in their execution, their success often owed as much to his own confidence and enthusiasm as to any kindred sympathy or encouragement, until their beneficence unfolding, their accomplishment was hailed with mingled gratitude and admiration. Well has he won and nobly has he worn, and made no less *his own*, the palm which he only sought to appropriate with *filial* reverence and affection: *Carum esse civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, deligi, gloriosum est.*

“Such is the meed of our own regard; such the accord of general regard and esteem towards him whom we so much honor and lament. “His guerdon,” as has been said, “was not of gold.” All his aspirations evinced a nobler, more exalted aim; the sway of higher principles than those of earth or art;—something approaching nearer to the loftiness of the ideal—the moral and spiritual element mingling and blending with the material—the undying and undecaying soaring visibly above the passing, earthborn and perishable. His range was not confined to the region of things around. He loved to hold converse with the departed great and good, and to bring their presence home to the souls of the living. His own spirit ever rose to inspiring thoughts of the dignity and destiny of

man. Action—great and noble action—not less than speech,—the power hardly less godlike,—had its commanding, all-powerful eloquence for him. History held out its great and glorious examples of constancy and virtue. Philosophy taught him equanimity under the allotments, and religion consoling reliance upon the wisdom and goodness, of Divine Providence. In every obscurity he could discern some distant ray; through every cloud (it was his own expression) he always descried a star. Life was neither darkened nor saddened, if softened and chastened, and its tone subdued, by its mellowing vicissitude and mature experience. It gathered new effulgence in its decline. It shone the most serene and bright in its setting. Its dearest domestic blessings encircled its close.

“To us, who are of the past as well as of the present, who form a brotherhood founded in times of common hardship and danger, and ever mindful of the honored inheritance that has come to us, it belongs to cherish in sacred trust the memory of one who was always faithful to the historic fame, the heroic deeds, and soul-stirring traditions of the Revolutionary age. Its prominent and eventful scenes were all familiar to his knowledge. Hardly a spot invested with its lively associations was unvisited, or battle-ground unexplored, by him. That era was one radiant to his view with a lustre that wanted neither its Thermopylæ nor its Marathon. It was reflected from Cape Diamond;—it crowned the brilliant height of Bunker Hill;—it shone along the embattled cliffs and shores of the North river, until its final splendor rested upon the last effulgent field of arms at Yorktown. To his ardent vision, the eagle’s flight toward the sun surveyed no grander circuit than the extended American Union. Its stars forever shone out clear from their deep blue firmament. That flag, bloodstreaked, unstained, unfolded to the elements, was to him the oriflamme of national strength, safety, and prosperity.

“In all the benefits of peace he beheld the advantages that had been thus bought, and the milder glories of what was won for us in the war of freedom. Not called in our more favored day to endure the same ordeal, the toils, privations, and sufferings to which our brave sires were summoned, yet deeming no price too great to be paid for such precious boons, he held it a proportionate obligation to preserve and perpetuate these estimable blessings.

“Among the most valued legacies bequeathed to us by our revered forefathers, upon the dissolution of the band by which they had been united, was this noble, time-honored institution—devoted, as it was designed and it has been continued, to the maintenance of its original principles and purposes—which became the constantly increasing object of his thoughtful interest and affection. This feeling, which warmed his breast with its generous fervor, followed him to the grave.

“The last part he took in life—as it were taking leave of it—was the honor he did us in presiding at our last celebration with all his accustomed grace and dignity and courtesy, and something even more as it

seemed than his usual animation. His last act here was in moving the admission of Daniel Webster as an honorary member. In a month he was no more.

"General Dearborn, it will be remembered while this institution shall last, was found worthy among all his brethren—and first of all its offspring—to wear the distinguished badge which once graced the breast of our illustrious Washington. This wreath was the reward of manly virtue. On the illumined shield of the institution, among the appropriate emblems of the order, are emblazoned in beautiful relief the ensigns of official superiority ere long to be laid aside; and amid the surrounding images of peaceful rural life, presented with faithful similitude in the *background*, the retiring wife—the cottage-door—the parting scene! Fain would we follow out the last consoling touches of merciful design. In vain would fancy trace the dim receding outline—sympathy in vain seek to fill up its sacred depth! That can only be done by all the heart treasures of truth and tenderness on earth; and faith cherishes in its fondest, firmest hold of the future!"

"With these sentiments, the committee appointed for the purpose beg leave to submit the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the Massachusetts Cincinnati have learned with sincere grief the decease of their beloved and lamented brother, General Henry Alexander Scammel Dearborn, late president-general of the Cincinnati Society; and that its members will ever hold in honored remembrance, among the cherished virtues that adorned his character, his attachment to the principles of this institution, and the ardent interest he took in its maintenance and perpetuity.

"Resolved, That this Society responds with strong emotion to the expressive announcement of this sudden event by the Honorable Hamilton Fish, vice-president-general, and that there be a due recognition of the appropriate recommendation by him for the occasion.

"Resolved, That the members of this Society would testify their deep and respectful sympathy with the mourning relict and family of the deceased upon this great and most afflicting bereavement.

"Resolved, That copies of these proceedings be communicated to the family of the deceased, and also to the vice-president-general and the secretary-general of the Society.

"CHARLES S. DAVIS,
"ELIJAH VOSE,
"ALFRED L. BAURY."

The treasurer-general made a report of sums received and invested, and an account of disbursements.

The assistant treasurer-general also laid an account before the meeting, and reported that he had paid over to the treasurer-general the balance of \$125.31.

This report and the accounts were, on motion of assistant treasurer-general, ordered to be entered on the minutes, and are as follows:

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER-GENERAL TO THE SOCIETY
OF THE CINCINNATI.**

"In obedience to the order of the Society, at their meeting in the city of New York, in May, 1851, and very shortly after that meeting, I went to Washington to claim and receive the amount due us from the Treasury of the United States, and did receive the sum of sixteen hundred and ninety-one dollars and eight cents, in two entirely different parcels, one of which was in cash, and the other was by a draft on the Mint at Philadelphia.

"Returning to Philadelphia, I called immediately on Mr. Markland, and learned the unwelcome intelligence that Mr. Johnston was exceedingly indisposed. We concluded, therefore, after having received from the Mint the amount of the draft, to proceed to make the investment directed by the Society, in the joint names of the three trustees, as directed by the order of the Society.

"Sixteen hundred and fifty dollars were delivered by us to Mr. Biddle, for the purpose of purchasing Pennsylvania stock of the five per cent. loan.

"The net produce is a certificate of seventeen hundred and fifty dollars.

"The interest is payable half yearly, that is to say, on the first day of August and the first day of February.

"The certificate bears date on the thirtieth day of June, Anno Domini, 1851, and is herewith exhibited.

"The half yearly interest is subject to some small tax by the State of Pennsylvania, and its net half yearly produce is forty-one dollars and fifty-six cents.

"Five of these have been received, and, of course, without any expense to the Society, and they are set forth in the accompanying account current. From all which it appears, that there remains in the hands of the treasurer-general the sum of seventy-two dollars and ninety cents, subject to the order and disposition of the Society.

"J. W. SCOTT.

"Buckleuch, May 15th, 1854."

J. W. Scott, Treasurer-General, in account with the Cincinnati.

This accountant charges himself with the following:

1851. June	To amount of cash received from the Treasury of the United States,	\$1,691 08
" "	To cash received for interest of Pennsylvania stock, that is to say, the interest due on the investment in August, 1851, and in Febru- ary and August, 1852, being each \$41 56, .	124 68
1854. May 10.	To cash received from assistant treasurer- general, J. H. Markland, Esq.,	125 31
		<hr/>
		\$1,941 07

This accountant prays allowance—

1851. June	By cash delivered to Mr. Biddle, broker, for in- vestment,	\$1,650 00
" "	By cash paid for expenses to and at Wash- ington, returning, etc.,	63 47
" "	Cash paid Gov. Fish, as per account and receipt,	20 15
" "	Cash paid by him to District Attorney, . . .	5 00
" "	Cash paid A. W. Johnston, Esq., secretary- general, as per bill and receipt,	13 42
" "	Cash paid Adams & Co.'s Express, per Eweng,	1 25
" "	Balance from last account,	76 77
" "	Cash paid Dr. McEuen, assistant secretary, amount of bills paid for printing, etc., . . .	38 11
" "	Balance in hand,	72 90
		<hr/>
		\$1,941 07

*J. H. MARKLAND, Assistant Treasurer-General of the Society of the
Cincinnati, in account with the Treasurer-General.*

DR.

1851. June 27.	Balance of cash from T Biddle & Co., . .	\$00 62
1853. Sept. 7.	Dividends Pennsylvania State Stock, . . .	83 12
		<hr/>
		\$83 75
1854. May 10.	Dividends Pennsylvania State Stock, . . .	41 56
(Paid.)		<hr/>
		\$125 31

Statement of investment by T. Biddle & Co.

\$1,750 Pennsylvania State 5 per cent. stock, at 94,	\$1,645 00
Brokerage $\frac{1}{4}$,	4 38
	<hr/>
	\$1,649 38
Cash received for investment,	1,650 00
Balance,	<hr/>
	62

Dr. Marcellin made application for the diploma of the Marquis Du Quesne, whose representative has been admitted to membership in the New York State Society.

The secretary-general read part of a correspondence on the subject of this diploma, when, on motion of General Smith, the secretary-general was authorized to countersign the original diploma of the Marquis Du Quesne, and deliver it to the secretary of the New York State Society.

Dr. Marcellin made a verbal report on the part of the committee on diplomas of foreign members, and the committee was continued.

The committee on printing documents was called on, and, after some conversation, the vacancy in the committee caused by the death of General Dearborn, was by resolution, filled by the appointment of the Honorable Hamilton Fish.

The secretary-general made the following report, viz.:

That he had furnished each of the secretaries of the existing State Societies of the Cincinnati with a copy of the minutes of the last triennial meeting of the General Society, held in the city of New York, on the 7th of May, 1851, in time for their consideration and action, on the then ensuing Fourth of July, and that he received prompt replies from the following, viz.:

MASSACHUSETTS STATE SOCIETY.

"The Ordinance of the General Society has not been acted on by our State Society, but referred to a committee to report on the 4th July."—*Extract from the Secretary's letter, July 14th, 1851.*

NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY.

"Resolved, That the New York State Society of the Cincinnati do hereby approve and ratify the aforesaid Ordinance, and do adopt the same; but, inasmuch as the approval and ratification of the said Ordinance, by all the State Societies, is essential to its adoption as a rule for future action in the admission of members to the Society of the Cincinnati, the adoption of the said Ordinance by this Society is upon condition, and upon the express declaration, that the same shall be approved, ratified, and adopted by each and every one of the remaining State Societies, before it shall be considered as a rule of action for the government of this Society."—*Extract from the Secretary's letter, July 12th, 1851.*

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SOCIETY.

"Resolved, That the secretary notify the secretary-general, and also the secretaries of the different State Societies of the Cincinnati, of the approval and adoption of the Ordinance relative to the succession and admission of members in Canons No. 1 to 8, as reported in the triennial meeting of the General Society, held in New York in May last."—*Extract from Secretary's letter of July 7th, 1851.*

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SOCIETY.

"And have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of the General Society. They have been referred to a committee of our Society, to report upon at our next meeting."—*Extract from Secretary's letter of July 10th, 1851.*

And the secretary-general further reports, That he again addressed the State Societies on the 18th June, 1852, calling their attention particularly to the action of the above-named Societies on the Ordinance recommended for adoption, urging a definite action on the same (see circular of that date); that since that time he has received communications from Adams Baily, secretary of the Massachusetts State Society, and from C. C. Jamison, Esq., secretary of the Maryland State Society, on the subject of the Ordinance, which communications accompany this report.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

A. W. JOHNSTON,
Secretary-General of the Cincinnati.

May, 1854.

The two communications mentioned in the last paragraph of the secretary-general's report are, in substance, the adoption by the Massachusetts Society of certain ordinances on admission to membership, a printed copy of said Ordinances, and of a report of the committee, recommending them to the Massachusetts State Society.

Also, a letter of C. C. Jamison, Esq., secretary of Maryland State Society, dated July 8th, 1852, stating that the Ordinance relative to the admission and succession of members, as adopted by the General Society on the 7th of May, 1851, had been submitted on the 5th instant to the Society. "When, after discussion, it was

"Resolved, That the aforesaid Ordinance be not concurred in by the Society of Maryland, and that the secretary be instructed to communicate such decision to the secretary of the General Society of the Cincinnati."

The report of the secretary-general was accepted, and ordered to be put upon the minutes.

Colonel Scott made a verbal statement of the proceedings of the New Jersey State Society, which has not adopted the ordinances.

On motion of Mr. Markland, it was resolved to proceed to the election for general officers, and to hold a recess for preparing tickets, all the officers to be placed on a single ticket.

At the time fixed, the Society came to order, and the vice-president, having appointed Colonel Sever and Mr. Thomas, tellers, an election was held, which the tellers reported to have resulted as follows :

President-general, Hon. Hamilton Fish, New York.

Vice-president-general, Hon. Charles S. Daveis, Massachusetts.

Secretary-general, Alexander W. Johnston, Esq., Pennsylvania.

Assistant secretary-general, Thomas McEuen, M. D., Pennsylvania.

Treasurer-general, Col. Joseph W. Scott, New Jersey.

Assistant treasurer-general, John H. Markland, Esq., Pennsylvania.

On the suggestion of Mr. Latimer, the presidents of the State Societies present, three in number, proceeded to invest the newly-elected president-general with the decoration presented by the "French sailors to General Washington."

Governor Fish, on taking the Chair, expressed, in a few very appropriate words, his high sense of the honor conferred on him by the Society.

Mr. Daveis also offered his thanks in a suitable address of much feeling.

The Society then, on motion, adjourned to meet next morning at nine o'clock, in the same place.

May 18th, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Society met, in accordance with the resolution for adjournment.

The delegation of the State Society of South Carolina being announced, the Hon. James Simons and J. Harleston Read, Jr., Esq., were introduced by the committee on credentials.

The Ordinances relative to the succession and admission of members, recommended at the last triennial meeting to the action of the State Societies, being now called up for consideration, and it appearing from the secretary-general's report of the communications made to him on the subject, that several State Societies had not concurred in said Ordinance, it was announced by the president-general that the ordinances not having received the assent of all the State Societies, have failed to be adopted.

Mr. Tudor laid before the meeting the following resolutions on the subject, which, on his motion, were ordered to be entered on the minutes:

Resolved, That the General Society will not object to the admission of members by the State Societies of the lineal descendants of officers of any grade, commissioned or warrant officers, who have served three years in the war of the Revolution, and have been honorably discharged.

Resolved, That the lineal or collateral descendants of commissioned officers, killed or maimed in battle, may be admitted members, upon ample proof of the death or maiming of such ancestor in the cause of the War of Independence.

Resolved, That the direct descendants above mentioned of commissioned officers who may have served in the Revolutionary war and been honorably discharged, may be admitted members by the State Societies, as they may think expedient, where the ancestor may have neglected to secure his own admission at the formation of the Society. This, upon sufficient payment of arrearages, and at the discretion of the State Societies, in order to add to their ranks honorable and valuable members.

Resolved, That it shall be necessary to the admission of all members included in the present resolves, that they supply the original pay of one month, together with interest at the rate not exceeding three per cent. per annum and that the accumulated sum shall in no instance exceed \$500, with the recommendation of the General Society to commute it to half that sum, as circumstances and the ability of individuals shall indicate and justify.

Resolved, That it be enjoined upon the State Societies to keep constantly in mind, to preserve the blood of the descent, that being of vital importance, and what will in the future lapse of time, give *all the value* which will attach to being a member of the Society of Cincinnati.

On motion of the assistant treasurer-general, seconded by Mr. Tudor, the meeting went into committee of the whole.

When the committee rose, it reported that it had had under consideration the principles contained in the resolutions which had been submitted to it, and had made some amendments thereto.

On motion, this report was adopted, and the report and resolutions were referred to a committee consisting of the president-general and the presidents of the State Societies present, and the Honorable James Simons, of the South Carolina State Society.

General Smith, on the part of the committee, reported the following preamble and resolutions :

WHEREAS, the ordinances relating to succession and membership proposed at the last triennial meeting to the several State Societies for their sanction, do not appear to have been adopted by them, while no disagreement or dissatisfaction has been evinced in respect to the general principles contained in the report submitted with the same, which have been received with favor and approval, so far as opinion has been expressed; therefore, in order to carry out those principles more satisfactorily, and at the same time to harmonize their results with the views and practical constructions prevailing among the different State Societies,

Resolved, That each State Society shall have the full right and power to regulate the admission of members, both as to the qualifications of the members and the terms of admission; *provided*, that admission be confined to the male descendants of original members, or of those who are now members (including collateral branches as contemplated by the original constitution); or to the male descendants of such officers of the army or navy as may have been entitled to admission, but who failed to avail themselves thereof within the time limited by the constitution; or to the male descendants of such officers of the army or navy of the revolution as may have resigned with honor or left the service with reputation; or to the male collateral relatives of any officer who died in service without leaving issue.

Resolved, That the male descendants of those who were members of State Societies which have been dissolved, may be admitted into existing Societies, upon such terms as those Societies think proper to prescribe.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be proposed to the several State Societies, and their assent be requested thereto; and upon such assent being given by each of the remaining Societies, the secretary-general shall issue notice thereof to each Society, and thereupon the said resolutions shall become operative, and each State Society shall be at liberty to act upon the power given thereby.

Which were adopted; and, on the ayes and nays being called for, the votes were as follows:—

STATES—Ayes: Massachusetts, 5; New York, 5; New Jersey, 5; Pennsylvania, 5; Maryland, 5; South Carolina, 5.

OFFICERS—Ayes: President-general, 1; vice-president-general, 1; secretary-general, 1; assistant secretary-general, 1; treasurer-general, 1; assistant treasurer-general, 1.

On motion of Colonel Sever, it was

Resolved, That the cash in the hands of the treasurer-general (after paying a bill of \$2 now due), with the interest accruing, be invested from time to time at the discretion of the trustees.

On motion of General Smith, it was

Resolved, That a draft be made by the treasurer-general on the State Societies, in equal proportions, for the expenses of this meeting, including those of printing the proceedings of the meeting, circulars, etc.

On motion of General Smith, it was

Resolved, That in future the expenses of the general meetings of the Society be borne in equal proportions by the State Societies whether represented or not.

Mr. Latimer made a motion that the next general meeting be held in Boston, Massachusetts, on the fourth Wednesday in May, 1857.

General Smith proposed to amend by inserting Charleston, South Carolina, and a division being called for, it appeared that there were ten votes in the affirmative and eleven in the negative, so the amendment was lost.

The question being then taken on Mr. Latimer's motion, it was carried in the affirmative.

On motion of General Tilghman, it was

Resolved, That a special general meeting of the Cincinnati be held in Charleston, South Carolina, on the first Wednesday in February next (1855).

The rough minutes were then read, amended and adopted.

A motion to adjourn was then made and carried in the affirmative

On announcing this result, the president-general made some remarks on the condition and prospects of the Society, which at the unanimous request of members, were furnished by the president to be placed on the minutes, and are as follows :

" Before announcing the result of the vote just taken, I ask permission to congratulate the Society upon the auspicious prospect which this meeting has encouraged us to contemplate.

" For the first time in the history of the Institution, every State Society extant has been represented at a general meeting, and while giving utterance to my own most cordial emotions, I feel and I know that it is but expressing the warm sentiment of all the delegates from the other Societies to say that no incident could have added so much to the interest of the meeting, or to the gratification or the encouragement which it has inspired, as the presence of our friends, the representatives of our brethren of Maryland and of South Carolina.

" Never estranged, still for long years we have failed all to come together ; but the friendships of our fathers ' formed under the pressure of common danger, and, in many instances, cemented by their blood,' have descended to their sons, and, after a lapse of seventy years from the organization of the Society, have brought us here from the remote points of the old thirteen States, representing all that is left of an Institution which its founders hoped to be perpetual, but representing it, as they designed it, ' One Society of Friends.'

" This reunion marks an epoch in our history. The destinies of the Society are now in the hands of its hereditary members. The founders of the Institution, with one exception, have passed away; one original member alone is known to survive ; and he, far advanced in the vale of years, with an intellect still vigorous, and a patriotism as ardent as that of his youth, is still spared, closing a well-spent life, at his home near the 'Cantonment of the American army on Hudson's river,' like a fond parent while waiting his summons, watching over the birthplace of a beloved child.

" The interest in the Society which the presence of the heroes who formed it gave to its meetings has gone—their virtues, their memories, their friendships, the principles which they asserted, remain to constitute its interest. These are now in our keeping ; and our Institution is henceforth to be maintained by the emulation of their virtues, the reverence of their memories, the adoption of their friendships, and the advocacy of their principles. It is for us to show that the work which they did was not in vain ; the past is theirs, and has been well done—the present is ours, full of hope and of promise ; and when the present comes, as it soon will, to be the past, may our sons say that it, too, has been well done.

"Standing between two generations, we owe a duty to both. The wreath upon our Society's badge is inscribed '*Virtutis præmium.*' As we received it, so may we part with it. A device in that badge represents two 'hands joined,' but those hands are joined 'supporting a heart.' The motto of our Society is our Father's prayer in its behalf, '*Esto perpetua.*' This inscription, this device, and this motto, are suggestive of our double duty. What we have received from worthy sires, let us transmit unimpaired to sons whom we shall train to emulate their virtues and their patriotism.

"Gentlemen, you have voted that this meeting stand adjourned. We met, many personally unknown to others; we part friends, I trust, for life. Accept my thanks for your kindness and support in the duties of the office in which your favor has placed me, and my best wishes for your safe return to families and to home.

"In pursuance of your vote, this meeting stands adjourned."

And the Society then adjourned.

THOS. McEUEEN,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1855

THE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

MET AT THE

MILLS HOUSE, CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA,

ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1855.

This meeting is held in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the last triennial meeting in Baltimore, May 8th, 1854; notice having been given by the secretary-general in a circular letter to the several State Societies.

At ten o'clock, A. M., the president-general took the chair, there being present:—Hamilton Fish, president-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general; John H. Markland, assistant treasurer-general; and the following delegates, viz., from—

South Carolina:

Mr. H. A. DeSaussure,
Mr. James Simons,
Mr. Wilmot G. DeSaussure,
Mr. R. W. Cogdell.

Pennsylvania:

Mr. Wm. G. Caldwell,
Mr. Robert Adams.

New York:

Mr. Charles A. Clinton.

New Jersey:

Mr. L. Q. C. Elmer.

Massachusetts:

Rev. Mr. Baury.

The minutes of the last triennial meeting were read, and, on motion of the assistant treasurer-general, were amended by striking out from the ninth and tenth line from the bottom on page eight of printed form the words "the principles of the original succession of members remains unchanged," and insert "the ordinances not having received the assent of all the State Societies have failed to be adopted."

The president-general then appointed Mr. Elmer and Mr. Simons a committee to verify the credentials of delegates, who made the following report:—

The special committee, to whom was referred the verification of certificates of delegates, respectfully report that they have examined the several certificates and report the following delegates to have been duly appointed:

South Carolina :

Hon. J. Harleston Read, Sr.,
H. A. DeSaussure,
Hon. John L. Manning,
Hon. James Simons,
Wilmot G. DeSaussure,
R. W. Cogdell.

Maryland :

Gen. John S. Smith,
Hon. John Nelson,
C. C. Jamison,
W. S. Williams,
Ramsay McHenry,
Gen. Tench Tilghman,
Jno. E. Howard,
Wm. Carvill Hall.

Pennsylvania :

Col. James Glentworth,
Gen. Jacob B. Weidman,
John R. Latimer,
Geo. W. Harris,
Wm. G. Caldwell,
Robert Adams.

New Jersey :

Col. Joseph W. Scott,
Geo. C. Thomas,
Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer.

New York :

Charles A. Clinton,
Henry Hall Ward,
Dr. Edward P. Marcellin.

Massachusetts :

Hon. Charles S. Daveis,
Rev. A. L. Baury,
Adams Bailey.

Respectfully submitted,

**LUCIUS Q. C. ELMER,
JAMES SIMONS.**

The committee on diplomas of French officers, in consequence of the absence and sickness of Mr. Marcellin, made no report, but was continued.

The committee on printing documents reported that some progress had been made in the selection of papers of peculiar interest, and was continued.

The assistant treasurer-general made a verbal report of the state of the funds in the treasury.

On motion of Mr. Simons, it was resolved, that hereafter, no other title than that of *Mr.* be used in designating members in the minutes of the General Society.

On motion of Mr. W. G. DeSaussure, it was resolved, that when the meeting adjourn, it do adjourn to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock; and the meeting then adjourned.

February 8th.

The Society met, and at ten o'clock, the president general took the chair.

Present, the same gentlemen as yesterday.

The minutes of yesterday's meeting were read.

Mr. J. Harleston Read, of South Carolina, and Mr. Ramsay McHenry, of Maryland, took their seats.

Communications made to the secretary-general, of the action of several of the State Societies, on the ordinances for the admission of members, were read, and some discussion had thereon.

On motion of Mr. Elmer, seconded by Mr. Simons, it was resolved, that a special meeting be held in Trenton, New Jersey, on the third Wednesday in May, 1856, at twelve M.

On motion of the assistant treasurer-general, it was resolved, that the sum of ten dollars be assessed on each State Society, to meet the expenses of this meeting—printing minutes, circulars, etc.

And the meeting then adjourned.

THOMAS McEUEN,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1856

THE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI,

MET IN SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST, 1856,

IN THE TRENTON HOUSE, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY,

AT TWELVE O'CLOCK M.,

CONFORMABLY TO A RESOLUTION OF THE LAST SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, THE USUAL NOTICE HAVING BEEN
ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL OFFICERS AND TO THE RESPECTIVE
STATE SOCIETIES BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL.

There were present:—Charles S. Daveis, vice-president-general; Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general.

And the following delegates, viz.: :

From New Jersey : Joseph W. Scott,
 William Pennington,
 Thomas Cadwalader,
 L. Q. C. Elmer.

Pennsylvania : James Glentworth,
 G. W. Harris,
 Robert Adams.

Massachusetts : Charles S. Daveis,
 Rev. Alfred L. Baury,
 Benjamin Dana.

Maryland : Tench Tilghman.

South Carolina : James Simons,
 J. Harleston Read, Jr.,
 Harris Simons.

A note from the president-general was then read, expressing his regret that, being detained by public business in the Senate chamber, it would be impossible for him to be present with the Society.

On motion of Mr. McEuen, seconded by Mr. Adams, a committee to examine the credentials of delegates was appointed by the vice-president-general, consisting of Mr. Elmer and Mr. James Simons, who shortly made the following report:

The special committee appointed to examine the credentials of delegates respectfully report that they find the following persons have been duly appointed from the State Societies, viz.:

New Jersey :	L. Q. C. Elmer, Thomas Cadwalader, William Pennington, G. C. Thomas, J. W. Scott.
New York :	Charles A. Clinton, Edward P. Marcellin, Theodosius O. Fowler.
Massachusetts :	Charles S. Daveis, Adams Bailey, Benjamin Dana, Rev. Alfred L. Baury.
Pennsylvania :	John R. Latimer, James Glentworth, George W. Harris, Robert Adams, William Y. Caldwell, Harris L. Sproat.
Maryland :	Tench Tilghman.
South Carolina :	James Simons, J. Harleston Read, Jr., Harris Simons.

And the committee beg leave to state that they are informed a full delegation has been appointed from the State Society of Maryland, but no credentials have been forwarded.

L. Q. C. ELMER,
JAMES SIMONS.

The assistant secretary-general having announced the loss the Society has sustained by the death of the late secretary-general, it was, on motion of the treasurer-general, accompanied with appropriate observations,

Resolved, That the officers and delegates wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Also, that the following preamble and resolutions be entered on the minutes.

Also, that a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of Mr. Johnston by the assistant secretary-general.

"The assistant secretary-general having communicated to this Society that Alexander W. Johnston, Esq., our secretary-general, has departed this life since the last meeting;

"Sincerely do we lament the death of our beloved brother. We attest to the high and honorable character which he attained and well supported.

"He was the son of a brave and gallant soldier of the Revolution, and well did he sustain the name of his honorable father.

"He was a faithful and diligent officer of our Society, and endeared to every member.

"We tender our sincere condolment to his bereaved family."

Mr. Elmer informed the meeting that the delegates of the State Society, with other gentlemen of the State of New Jersey, some of whom had been present in Charleston during the meeting there in 1855, would be gratified to entertain the officers and delegates at dinner to-day. Whereon, on motion of Mr. James Simons, it was

Resolved, That when the meeting adjourn it shall be till ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Simons at the same time expressed the great satisfaction with which he had met the Society at Charleston, and which he would be delighted to renew on the present occasion.

Mr. Scott, on seconding the motion, made some interesting remarks of the same character.

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Elmer, it was

Resolved, That a successor to Mr. Johnston, as trustee of the funds of the Society, be appointed, and that the vice-president name a committee for making the nomination.

The vice-president named Mr. Elmer, Mr. Tilghman and Mr. James Simons to be that committee.

On motion of Mr. Glentworth, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three delegates be appointed to make suitable preparations for a dinner to be given by the Society to-morrow.

The vice-president-general appointed Mr. Cadwalader, Mr. Glentworth and Mr. Dana.

The assistant secretary-general read the following letter:

"PHILADELPHIA, July 10th, 1855.

"THOMAS McEUEEN, M. D., *Assistant Secretary-General*:

"DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to transmit to you the following copy of a resolution passed at the annual meeting of the State Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania, held July 4th, ult., the seventy-ninth anniversary of American Independence :

"On motion

"Resolved, That this Society withdraw their assent to the resolution adopted by the General Society at their meeting in Baltimore, on the 17th day of May, 1854, which was adopted by this Society on the 4th day of July, 1854, and that the Secretary be directed to notify the secretary-general and the secretaries of the several State Societies of the same.'

"I remain,

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

HARRIS L. SPROAT,

"Secretary of the State Society of the Cincinnati of Penna."

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Read, it was

Resolved, That the subject of the admission of members be made the order of business for eleven o'clock to-morrow, in committee of the whole.

On motion of Mr. Glentworth, seconded by Mr. McEuen, the meeting was then adjourned.

Thursday, May 22d.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:—The vice-president-general, treasurer-general, assistant secretary-general, assistant treasurer-general.

The delegates as yesterday, with the exception of Rev Mr. Baury, and Mr. Dana, of Massachusetts.

The committee appointed to nominate a trustee of the funds of the Society, in the place of Mr. Alexander W. Johnston, deceased, made a report recommending the appointment of Mr. John McDowell, Jr., of Philadelphia, which was accepted, and Mr. McDowell was appointed.

Pursuant to resolution, the meeting then went into committee of the whole, Mr. Scott in the chair.

After discussion, the committee rose, and reported the following preamble and resolutions :

WHEREAS, The resolutions in reference to the admission of members, which were adopted by the triennial meeting at Baltimore, in May, 1854, were the result of careful deliberation and successive action continued through a number of years;

AND WHEREAS, The said meeting was the first and only one at which there was a full representation of all the State Societies, in addition to the whole of the officers, and said action was concurred in by all the officers and representatives present at said meeting;

AND WHEREAS, This meeting is satisfied that a large majority of the State Societies desire the adoption of said resolutions, and deem it more consistent with the principles of the General Society, that the State Societies should be permitted to exercise their judgment, within the limits named in said resolutions, than that either the majority or minority of said societies should control the action of the other, therefore,

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at the last triennial meeting, requiring the assent of the several State Societies to the resolutions in relation to the admission of members, as the condition on which the said resolutions shall become operative, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Which, on motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Elmer, were adopted ; the votes being taken by officers and delegations as below :

Yeas :—Vice-president-general, 1 ; treasurer-general, 1 ; assistant secretary-general, 1 ; assistant treasurer-general, 1 ; New Jersey, 5 ; Massachusetts, 5 ; South Carolina, 5 ; Maryland, 5 ; Pennsylvania, 5.

On motion of Mr. Elmer, seconded by Mr. Markland, it was

Resolved, That the president-general, vice-president-general, and Mr. Tilghman, be appointed a committee to prepare a report for the next triennial meeting on the subject of the constitution of the Society, and all matters relative thereto.

On motion of Mr. Read, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, it was

Resolved, That the Society of the Cincinnati, impressed with the kind and generous feelings which prompted the attention and hospitality tendered them and gratefully received by them, from the delegation of the State Society of the Cincinnati of New Jersey and other citizens of the State, hereby return their sincere thanks for this mark of kindness and consideration.

On motion of the assistant treasurer-general, seconded by Mr. Adams, it was

Resolved, That the sum of twenty dollars (\$20) be assessed on each State Society to defray the expenses of this meeting.

On motion of the assistant secretary-general, seconded by the assistant treasurer-general, it was

Resolved, That the expenses of the secretary for printing, etc., contingent on the proceedings of the Society, be defrayed from the treasury of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Markland, it was

Resolved, That the assistant secretary-general be authorized to procure another cabinet for containing the archives of the Society.

Also, that the archives be put at the disposal of the committee on the constitution when required by them.

The letter of the president-general read by the vice-president, was, with the general approbation of the Society, ordered to be placed on the minutes.

"SENATE CHAMBER, May 20th, 1856.

"HON. CHARLES S. DAVIS, *Vice-President.*

"MY DEAR SIR:—At the last moment I find myself unable to leave here. The condition of the public business, and the immediate pendency of several matters in which, either from the interests of my constituents or my own connection as member of committees, I am compelled to observe a watchfulness, which requires my continued presence, render it impossible for me to be absent during the present week. I hoped to have been able to effect some arrangement to enable me to be present with you to-morrow, and have not abandoned that hope until the last moment. I need not say how great is my disappointment. The meetings of the Cincinnati with me are bright days, bringing enjoyment in the present, pride and veneration of the past, hope of the future. And whatever (just at this time) gives hope of the future, may well be prized. I beg you, my dear sir, to make my excuse to the Society. I envy you the pleasure of a meeting at *Trenton*, where the tide of disaster, defeat and despondency was first arrested and turned back, where hope and confidence were first restored, and where a masterly retreat was more than redeemed by a still more masterly assault and victory.

"You and our associates will enjoy it. I can only be with you in spirit. The meeting, I am sure, will be productive of good. May God bless the Society, and advance the objects for which it was formed, and may His rich blessings rest upon you, and the gentlemen who may be present.

"With sincere regard,

"Faithfully yours,

"HAMILTON FISH."

The Society was then indefinitely adjourned.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Assistant-Secretary-General.

1857

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

EIGHTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, May 27th, 1857.

The Society met at the United States Hotel in triennial meeting, as appointed by the general meeting in Baltimore, in 1854; the usual circular notice having been sent by the assistant secretary-general to the general officers and the secretaries of the State Societies.

There being present Hamilton Fish, president-general; Charles S. Daveis, vice-president-general; Thomas McEuen, assistant secretary-general; Joseph W. Scott, treasurer-general.

And the following delegates:

Massachusetts :

Charles S. Daveis,
Benjamin Dana,
Adams Bailey,
John J. Soren,
Franklin Pierce,
Rev. Alfred L. Baury,
Frederick Tudor,
James W. Sever,
William Perkins,
John Homans.

New Jersey :

Joseph W. Scott,
William Pennington,
Thomas Cadwalader.

Pennsylvania :

John R. Latimer,
Samuel B. Boude,
James Glentworth,
Robert Adams.

New York :

Alexander B. Thompson,
Edward Macomber.

Maryland :

Tench Tilghman.

The president-general took the chair at 12 o'clock M.; the meeting was opened with a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baury, delegate from the State Society of Massachusetts.

The minutes of the special meetings at Charleston, South Carolina, and Trenton, New Jersey, were read.

On motion of Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Scott, it was resolved to amend the minutes of the meeting at Trenton, by striking out from the remarks of Mr. Elmer, the words "had joined the Society at Charleston," and insert in their place "had been present in Charleston during the meeting there in 1855."

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Scott, it was resolved, that a committee be appointed to examine credentials of delegates. The president-general appointed Messrs. Tilghman and Bailey to be that committee.

Mr. Sever having announced that the State Society of Massachusetts extended to the General Society an invitation to meet them at dinner to-day, at six o'clock, the invitation was, on motion of Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Pennington, accepted with a grateful sense of the courtesy thus offered.

The committee to examine the credentials of delegates, made the following report:

The undersigned committee on the credentials of members have the honor to report that they have examined the certificates of the delegates from the several State Societies, and find that the gentlemen whose names are contained in the subjoined list have been regularly appointed.

The Societies of Massachusetts and Maryland have appointed a larger number of delegates than that prescribed by the constitution, viz., five.

The committee are, however, advised that the five gentlemen who are first named on the Massachusetts delegation, have been authorized to represent that State, and that the number in attendance from Maryland is less than that prescribed by the constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

TENCH TILGHMAN,
ADAMS BAILEY.

New Jersey:

Joseph W. Scott,
L. Q. C. Elmer,
George C. Thomas,
William Pennington,
Thomas Cadwalader.

Pennsylvania:

John R. Latimer,
Samuel B. Boude,
James Glentworth,
Robert Adams,
George W. Harris.

Maryland:

J. Speer Smith,
C. C. Jamison,
William S. Williams,
John Nelson,
Tench Tilghman,
Ramsay McHenry,
Joshua Barney.

New York:

Alexander B. Thompson,
Edward Macomber,
Henry H. Ward,
Richard Varick De Witt.

The treasurer-general laid before the meeting his report on the state of the funds of the Society, which, on motion of Mr. Dana, seconded by Mr. Tudor, was referred to a committee for examination; the president general appointed Mr. Latimer, Mr. Pennington and Mr. Thompson to be that committee, who shortly made a report, which was accepted, and with the treasurer's accounts were ordered to be inserted on the minutes, as follows:

JOSEPH W. SCOTT, Treasurer-General, in account with the Cincinnati, U. S.

This accountant charges himself with the following:

May 17, 1854. Cash on hand this day on settlement at Baltimore,	\$72 90
Assessments made on the State Societies this day,	192 00
	<hr/>
	\$264 90

Per contra, he prays allowance.

May 20, 1854. Cash paid bill of expenses at Baltimore,	\$198 75
Cash paid secretary-general estimated expenses for certain repairs, printing and other inci- dentials,	25 00
Cash paid for coach hire,	4 50
Balance on hand,	36 65
	<hr/>
	\$264 90

The treasurer-general also annexes to this his report, the account current of the assistant treasurer-general with him, by which it appears that there remains in the hands of the assistant treasurer-general the sum of forty dollars and twenty cents, subject to the order and disposition of the Society.

The Assistant Treasurer-General of the Society of Cincinnati, U. S., in account with the Treasurer-General.

	DR.	CR.
1854. August 7. By dividend Pennsylvania State stock,	\$41 56	
" To deposit in savings, at 5 per cent., .	\$41 56	
1855. Feb. 8. By contributions at Charleston, State societies,	50 00	
" 16. By dividends Pennsylvania State stock,	41 56	
" 16. To deposit in savings, at 5 per cent., .	41 56	
August 2. By dividend Pennsylvania State stock,	41 56	
" 4. To Pennsylvania State stock, \$46.96		
c. 88½,	41 56	

	Dr.	Cr.
1856. Feb. 15. By dividend Pennsylvania State stock,	42 67	
" 18. To Pennsylvania State stock, \$50.20	42 67	
c. 85,	42 67	
April 9. To bills paid by assistant secretary for printing circular, minutes, etc., . . .	44 65	
May 22. By contributions at Trenton State Society,	80 00	
" 22. To bill at Trenton House,	56 50	
" 26. By contribution Massachusetts State Society,	20 00	
August 8. By dividend Pennsylvania State stock,	43 86	
" 26. To Pennsylvania State stock, \$53.16,	43 86	
c. 82½,	43 86	
1857. Jan. 12. To bills incurred by assistant secretary, printing minutes, etc.,	8 65	
Feb. 4. By dividend Pennsylvania State stock,	45 13	
" 5. To Pennsylvania State stock, \$53.73,	45 13	
c. 84,	40 20	
Balance,	<u>406 34</u>	<u>406 34</u>

1857. May 1. By balance in hands of assistant treasurer-general, applicable to the expenses of the Society, as above, \$40 20

LIST OF CERTIFICATES OF STOCK AND WHEN PURCHASED.

June 30, 1851. Pennsylvania five per cent. stock,	\$1,750 00
Aug. 6, 1855. " " "	46 96
Feb. 18, 1856. " " "	50 20
Aug. 26, 1856. " " "	53 16
Feb. 5, 1857. " " "	53 73
Total amount invested,	\$1,954 05

(Signed.)

J. W. SCOTT, *Treasurer-General.*

The committee appointed for that purpose report that they have examined the foregoing account and find the same correct.

(Signed.)

JOHN R. LATIMER,
WM. PENNINGTON,
ALEX. B. THOMPSON.

The assistant secretary-general stated that, in compliance with the directions of the last meeting of the Society, he had communicated to the widow of Mr. Johnston the resolutions of the meeting on the occasion of the death of the late secretary-general, and read a note in reply from Mrs. Johnston, which was ordered to be placed on file.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Tilghman, it was resolved to proceed to an election of general officers, also that a recess of ten minutes be had for the purpose. The president-general appointed Mr. Latimer and Mr. Dana tellers. When the meeting came again to order, the tellers reported the ballots, and it was announced that the following gentlemen were elected, viz.:

Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.
 Charles S. Daveis, of Massachusetts, vice-president-general
 Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.
 George W. Harris, of Maryland, assistant secretary-general.
 Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.
 John H. Markland, of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

The committee on foreign members made a report of progress, and was continued.

The committee to examine the documents, etc., presented the following report:

"The committee appointed to examine documents in the custody of the officers of the Society, with a view to publication of such facts as may be of interest, respectfully report:

"That they have made some progress in the work assigned to them, but from the loss of some of the minutes of the Society, and more especially of some of the papers and documents which appear to have been in its possession, and which would throw light upon many questions of interest, they have not been able to submit the result of their labors, in form, to the Society.

"The committee found that, with few exceptions, even the rolls of the several State Societies have disappeared from the archives of the General Society; and such as remain are not wholly to be depended upon as accurate.

"They have been able to supply the deficiencies, in a great degree, so far as they relate to the Societies still remaining, from the archives, etc., of those Societies.

"Of the extinct Societies, those of New Hampshire and Connecticut have deposited their papers and proceedings with the Historical Societies of their respective States, where they now are, and whence the committee have drawn much information with regard to them.

"The papers of the Rhode Island Society, as also those of Virginia, are said to be still in existence, and the committee are strongly encouraged to hope that they may be recovered.

"Of the Delaware papers, no trace has yet been discovered. Very diligent inquiry has been made for the North Carolina records, but without avail and without encouragement to hope for final success. The committee are compelled to believe that the Georgia records are wholly lost. The late Judge Berrien, of that State, himself entitled to be a member by inheritance, informed one of your committee that he had been making diligent search for a series of years for these records, and had finally come to the conclusion that they were past discovery.

"The lists of French officers, to whom diplomas and the medal of the Society were awarded, seem to be very complete.

"There are also several very interesting letters and documents among the archives of the General Society, but the committee are of opinion that any publication should be delayed until opportunity be had to recover some that are lost, which are important to the interest of any publication which may be made.

"They, therefore, respectfully ask leave to be continued.

"Boston, May 27th, 1857."

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the report was accepted, the committee continued and requested to report to the next meeting the probable expense of the publication, together with a general statement of what they propose to publish.

The committee on the constitution of the Society, and matters relative thereto, reported progress: and, after some discussion on the subject of their appointment, it was laid on the table for the present.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. McEuen, it was resolved, that when the meeting adjourn, it be till to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

A letter from Mr. James Simons, delegate from South Carolina, was read, in which he expresses his regret that he is prevented by unavoidable engagements from attending the present meeting.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Bailey, the meeting was then adjourned.

May 28th.

The Society came to order at the hour fixed yesterday.

The report of the committee on the constitution, etc., laid on the table yesterday, was now taken up. On motion of Mr. Sever, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the committee was continued and empowered to print and distribute their report, in anticipation of the next meeting of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Glentworth, it was resolved, that the next triennial meeting be held in Philadelphia, on the first Wednesday in May, 1860.

The treasurer-general reported that there was no necessity to make the usual assessment on the State Societies, as the Massachusetts Society had generously assumed the discharge of all expenses incurred on this occasion.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Scott, it was resolved, that the meeting tender their thanks to the Massachusetts State Society for the hospitality and attentions which officers and delegates have received during this meeting.

The minutes were read, amended, and adopted.

After a prayer from Rev. Mr. Baury, on motion of Mr. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Latimer, the meeting was then indefinitely adjourned.

THOS. McEUEEN,
Secretary-General.

1860

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

EIGHTY-FOURTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PHILADELPHIA, May 2d, 1860.

The Society convened in general triennial meeting at the La Pierre House, Philadelphia, in conformity with a resolution adopted by the last triennial meeting at Boston: notice having been sent by the secretary-general to the general officers and to the secretaries of the several State societies.

After a prayer by the Rev. David Smith, D.D., of Connecticut, the president-general took the chair at eleven o'clock, there being present:

Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general; Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general; Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general; George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general. John H. Markland, of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

And the following delegates, viz.:

From Massachusetts:	Rev. David Smith, Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Winslow Warren.
New York:	Hamilton Fish, Edward Macomber, William S. Popham.
New Jersey:	Joseph W. Scott.
Pennsylvania:	John R. Latimer, James Schott, Robert Patterson, Harris L. Sproat, Robert Adams.
Maryland:	C. C. Jamison, Tench Tilghman, Augustus H. Kilty.

The minutes of the last triennial meeting were read.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Mr. Schott, a committee was appointed to examine the credentials of delegates. The president-general named Messrs. Markland, Jamison, and Warren to be that committee, who soon made the following report:

The committee to examine the credentials of delegates from the several State societies have the honor to report:

That they find that the gentlemen whose names are contained in the subjoined list have been regularly appointed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. MARKLAND,
C. C. JAMISON,
WINSLOW WARREN.

Massachusetts :

Charles S. Daveis,
David Smith,
Winslow Warren,
Alfred L. Baury,
James W. Sever,
Frederick Tudor.

Pennsylvania :

John R. Latimer,
Robert Patterson,
Robert Adams,
James Schott,
Harris L. Sproat.

New York :

Hamilton Fish,
Edward Macomber,
William S. Popham,
Henry H. Ward,
John Cochran.

Maryland :

John Speer Smith,
C. C. Jamison,
Tench Tilghman,
Augustus H. Kilty,
Ramsay McHenry,
Wm. S. Williams.

New Jersey :

George C. Thomas,
William Pennington,
L. Q. C. Elmer,
Jos. W. Scott.

It appears from a letter from Mr. James Simons, vice-president of the South Carolina Society, addressed to the president-general, that Messrs. James Simons, DeSaussure, and Read were of the delegation from that State.

A letter from Mr. James Simons, one of the delegates from the State Society of South Carolina, was read. Mr. Simons expresses his great regret, and that of his colleagues, Mr. DeSaussure and Mr. Read, on their absence. Being engaged in a cause in chancery of very considerable magnitude to be heard at Columbia, South Carolina, in the beginning of May, these gentlemen find it impossible to be in Philadelphia at the time of the present meeting.

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Harris, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to consider, as well the time and place for holding the next triennial meeting, as whether it be expedient to have an intermediate meeting. The president-general named Messrs. Tilghman, Patterson, and Smith to be that committee.

On the part of the committee "on the constitution of the Society and all matters relative thereto," in the absence of the vice-president-general, the chairman of the committee, Mr. Tilghman made a verbal report, and the committee was continued.

In the absence of the members of the committee "on diplomas of French officers still in possession of the secretary-general," the president-general stated that, during a recent visit to France, he had made inquiries respecting the families of these members, and that he had been forced to abandon the hope that their representatives would be found.

The president-general laid before the meeting a letter from Mr. John Speer Smith, president of the State Society of Maryland. It was read, and contains suggestions regarding the admission of the descendants of the French officers who were members of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Kilty, the letter of Mr. Smith, with the subject it alludes to, was referred to a committee. The president-general named Messrs. Jamison, Latimer, and Popham to be that committee.

The treasurer-general presented a report on the funds of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Macomber, a committee was appointed to audit the accounts of the treasurer-general. The president-general named Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Macomber, and Mr. Sproat to be that committee, who shortly afterwards reported that they had examined the accounts of the treasurer-general, and had found them to be correct. It was directed that the report and account here following be entered on the minutes of the meeting, and preserved in the files of the Society.

In conformity with established custom, the treasurer-general of the Cincinnati, United States, has the honor to report the state of the funds; by which it appears that the small remnant of the original amount rescued and received by us has been faithfully invested, and that the accruing interest has been re-invested to the best advantage.

It has been directed by the Society that no portion of the invested funds, or of the accruing interest thereof, should be applied to the current or ordinary expenses, but that these shall be met by the State Societies.

The general state of the funds will more particularly appear by the accounts herewith furnished.

JOSEPH W. SCOTT, *Treasurer-General, in account with the Cincinnati, U. S.*

This accountant charges himself with the following:

May 1, 1857. Balance on hand from last account, \$36 75

Per Contra, he prays allowance.

July 28, 1857. Paid assistant treasurer-general,	\$11 00
Balance on hand,	25 65
	<hr/>
	\$36 65

The treasurer-general also annexes hereto the account of the assistant treasurer-general, by which it appears that there is in the hands of that officer a balance of forty-one cents of the expense account, and that the invested funds of the General Society now amount to \$2,388 43.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. SCOTT.

Philadelphia, May 2, 1860.

The Assistant Treasurer-General of the Society of the Cincinnati, U. S., in account with the Treasurer-General.

1857.	<i>Expense Account.</i>	Dr.	Cr.
May 1,	By balance on hand from last account,	\$40 20	
July 28,	" cash from treasurer-general,	11 00	
Aug. 1,	To secretary-general for expenses,	\$50 79	
	Balance,	41	
		<hr/>	
		\$51 20	\$51 20
		<hr/>	<hr/>

1860.

May 2,	By balance in hand, as above,	41
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1857.	<i>Stock Account.</i>	
May 1,	By deposit in saving fund, as per last account,	\$83 12
"	" interest thereon to date, at 5 per cent., . .	8 50
Aug. 4,	" dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. State stock,	46 41

1858.

Feb. 4,	" dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. State stock,	46 41
Aug. 5,	" dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. State stock,	46 41
" 7,	" interest on deposit in saving fund,	6 20
" "	" To Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$60 65, at 90,	54 58

	Dr.	Cr.
1859.		
Feb. 10, By dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. State stock,	47 85	
" 11, To Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$84 20, at 93,	78 31	
" " By interest on deposit in saving fund, \$182 47,	4 56	
" 26, To Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$108 10, at 92½,	100 00	
July 1, By interest on deposit in saving fund, \$87 03,	2 18	
Aug. 8, " dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$55 17, tax \$2 75,	52 42	
Aug. 9, To Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$110 50, at 90½,	100 00	
1860.		
Jan. 1, By interest on balance in saving fund, \$11 17,	28	
Feb. 14, " dividend Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$57 93, tax \$2 88,	55 05	
" " To Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock, \$70 93, at 93¾,	66 50	
	<u>\$399 39</u>	<u>\$399 39</u>

J. H. MARKLAND,

May 2, 1860. *Assistant Treasurer-General.*

**CERTIFICATES OF STOCK PURCHASED SINCE LAST ACCOUNT, WITH
DATE OF PURCHASE.**

Aug. 7, 1858. Pennsylvania 5 per cent. stock,	\$60 65
Feb. 11, 1859. " " " "	84 20
" 26, " " " "	108 10
Aug. 9, " " " "	110 50
Feb. 14, 1860, " " " "	70 93
	<u>\$434 38</u>
Add stocks on hand at last account,	<u>1,954 05</u>
Whole amount of stock,	<u>\$2,388 43</u>

May 2, 1860.

The committee appointed to audit the accounts of the treasurer-general report that they have examined the same and find them to be correct.

Respectfully submitted,

TENCH TILGHMAN,
EDW. MACOMBER,
HARRIS L. SPROAT,
Committee.

Mr. Latimer, on behalf of the State Society of Pennsylvania, invited the officers and delegates to be the guests of the State Society, at dinner to-morrow at six o'clock.

The invitation was gratefully accepted.

The president-general read a letter from M. le Comte Maurice du Parc, dated Paris, June 16th, 1856. M. du Parc requests to be received a member in right of his uncle the Comte du Parc Coatrescar, one of the French officers of the rank of Colonel whom the Society considered as members.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Mr. Patterson, it was

Resolved, That a respectful answer be made by the secretary-general to M. du Parc, stating that the applicant is not, according to the institution of the Society, entitled to membership.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Schott, an election for officers was then held. The president-general appointed Mr. Latimer and Mr. Kilty tellers, who on counting the ballots, reported the following gentlemen to be re-elected :

Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.

Charles S. Daveis, of Massachusetts, vice-president-general.

Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.

John H. Markland, of Pennsylvania, assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Macomber, it was

Resolved, That one or more chaplains be appointed, also that the Rev. Mr. Alfred L. Baury, Rev. Mr. David Smith and Rev. Mr. Mancius S. Hutton be such chaplains.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Kilty, it was

Resolved, That the meeting be adjourned till twelve o'clock to-morrow.

May 3d, 1860.

The Society met at noon.

Officers and delegates present as yesterday. The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and amended.

Mr. Jamison, of the committee to which was referred the letter of Mr. Smith on the claims of the descendants of French officers, members of the Society, reported as follows, and the committee was continued:

The undersigned committee, appointed in general convention to examine the claims of the descendants of several French officers who served in the army of the Revolution, and now asking admission into the Society of the Cincinnati, as presented by the president-general and by the recommendation of the president of the Maryland State Society, beg leave to say that

they have not had time to examine their claims for admission at the present meeting, and ask to be allowed to defer their report to the next general meeting of the Society.

C. C. JAMISON,
Wm. S. POPHAM,
JOHN R. LATIMER.

The president-general handed to the meeting a pamphlet published by the State Society of Rhode Island, in 1802, containing the institution of the Society, and a list of the members of that State Society, presented by William Jones Hoppin, Esq., to the Society.

Another by Baron Girardot on the Society in France, *l'Odre Américain de Cincinnatus en France*, without date, but lately printed at Nantes; presented by Baron Girardot to the General Society.

The secretary-general was directed to acknowledge their receipt with thanks, and to place them with the archives of the Society.

The committee on selecting documents in the archives of the Society for publication, made a report as follows:

The committee appointed to examine documents in the custody of the officers of the Society, with a view to publication of such facts as may be of interest, respectfully report that the following matters appear to them proper for publication under the resolution by which they were appointed:

1. Historical narrative of the organization of the Society and of General Washington's connection with it.
2. Extracts from the journals giving matter of general interest.
3. List of members of the general and of the several State Societies, and an alphabetical list of all who have been enrolled as members.
4. Memoranda of proceedings of the several State Societies and of the French Society.

In regard to the expense of publication the committee, after due inquiry, have made the following estimate: It is proposed to publish five hundred copies of the work in octavo size, which will cost about one dollar per copy, making an aggregate cost of five hundred dollars.

To defray this expense it is proposed that each State Society shall subscribe for as many copies as they may require, and that the residue of the cost be assessed upon the several Societies. It is further recommended that the publication be not commenced until it be ascertained that a sufficient amount of subscriptions can be obtained to warrant the undertaking.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

The secretary-general was directed to advise the secretaries of the State Societies of the intended publication, and to inquire whether the respective Societies would desire to have copies, and, if so, how many would probably be required.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Mr. Jamison, the following notice of the death of the former assistant treasurer-general was read and ordered to be placed on the records:

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. William Jackson, late assistant treasurer-general, the Society has not only to regret the loss of an amiable associate and most efficient officer, but also the extinction of the line of one of its most accomplished original members.

Mr. Jamison presented to the Society a copy of the History of Maryland, from its settlement in 1634 to the year 1848, etc., etc., for the use of schools; by James McSherry, Baltimore, 1852. It contains lists of the members of the Cincinnati of Maryland and of the officers of the old Maryland line.

It was thankfully accepted, and directed to be preserved with the archives of the Society.

The committee to which was referred the consideration of the time and place of the next meeting, etc., made the following report, with accompanying resolutions, which, as here amended, were adopted:

The committee to which was referred the subject of the time and place for the next triennial meeting of the Society, and also the question of an intermediate meeting, have the honor to report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That when this Society adjourn, it stand adjourned to meet in the city of Baltimore, on such day in the year 1861 as may be designated by the president-general.

Resolved, That the next triennial meeting be held in the city of New York, on the second Wednesday in May, 1863, with authority to the president-general to designate a later day should circumstances occur to render it advisable.

Respectfully submitted,

TENCH TILGHMAN,
R. PATTERSON,
DAVID SMITH.

The following preamble and resolutions, offered by the Rev. Mr. Baury, and seconded by Mr. Latimer, were then adopted:

It having been suggested that in several of the States where the Society of the Cincinnati has been suspended, or is now extinct, there is a disposition evinced by the descendants of the original members to renew their association and admission into union with the General Society; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with such persons as are interested in the restoration of the several societies above referred to, and that they be invited to appoint delegates to confer with the

General Society at the next or any subsequent meeting on the subject of their admission into union with the same.

Resolved, That the committee of conference consist of three members of this body, who shall be and hereby are empowered to act in the premises at their discretion.

The president-general appointed Rev. Mr. Baury, Mr. Markland and Mr. Tilghman to be that committee.

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Patterson, it was

Resolved, That the president-general be requested to take part in the proceedings of this committee.

On motion of Mr. Markland, seconded by Mr. Schott, it was

Resolved, That the secretary-general be directed to make application to the secretaries of the State Societies, requesting them to examine the records of the respective societies for minutes or notes of the general meeting in 1796, and of those from 1804 to 1825. If such minutes or notes be found, to inform the secretary-general thereof, and, if deemed necessary, to have copies made for the use of that officer; the expense, if any, to be borne by the General Society.

Also, that the secretary-general be directed to have the minutes of the general meetings from 1787 to the present time copied into the original book of minutes.

The treasurer-general announced that the State Society of Pennsylvania had generously assumed the expenses of the present meeting, consequently the charge on the treasury would be limited to the cost of printing the minutes and copying documents, etc., ordered by the Society. For this purpose an assessment of fifteen dollars on each State Society was requisite, which was accordingly made and paid by the representatives of the Societies present.

Mr. Tilghman then, in the absence of the vice-president-general, moved the following, seconded by Rev. Mr. Baury, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Society regret the absence of their esteemed associate and venerable vice-president-general, the Hon. Charles S. Daveis, and take this occasion to express the hope that nothing may occur to deprive them of the pleasure of his company at their future meetings.

Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to transmit a copy of the above resolution to the vice-president-general.

On motion of Mr. Tilghman, seconded by Mr. Kilty, the thanks of the meeting were offered to the State Society of Pennsylvania for their cordial reception and courteous entertainment of the officers and delegates.

On motion of Mr. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Sroat, the meeting was then adjourned, when a prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Baury.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Secretary-General.

1863

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

EIGHTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

CONVERSATION ROOM OF THE NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY.

NEW YORK, May 13TH, 1863.

The General Society met in triennial meeting in conformity with a resolution of the last triennial meeting in Philadelphia; the usual notice having been sent to the general officers and to the secretaries of the several State Societies.

A prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Baury, one of the chaplains of the Society.

The president-general took the chair at noon, there being present:

Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general; Thomas McKuen, M.D., of Pennsylvania, secretary-general; George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general; Col. Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.

And the following delegates, viz. :

From New York:	John Torrey, M. D., Mr. William S. Popham, Mr. Henry H. Ward.
New Jersey:	Colonel Joseph W. Scott, Mr. John McDowell.
Pennsylvania:	Mr. Josiah W. Harmar, Mr. Peleg Hall, Mr. William G. Caldwell.
Massachusetts:	Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Colonel James W. Sever, John Homans, M. D.

Chaplains: - Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Rev. Mancius S. Hutton, D. D.

The minutes of the last triennial meeting were read.

The president-general stated the reasons why he had not designated a day in the year 1861 for an adjourned meeting of the Society, to have been held in Baltimore, in pursuance of the resolution of the Society at the triennial meeting, held in 1860.

On motion of Mr. McDowell, it was

Resolved, That the meeting approve the course of the president-general on the subject.

On motion of Colonel Sever, a committee was appointed to examine the credentials of delegates. The president-general appointed Colonel Sever, Mr. Popham and Mr. Caldwell to be that committee, who after a short time reported the following named gentlemen to have been appointed by the several State Societies :

New York:	Mr. William S. Popham, John Torrey, M. D., Mr. Henry H. Ward.
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Pennsylvania:	Mr. John R. Latimer, Mr. Josiah W. Harmar, Mr. William Wayne, Mr. Peleg Hall, Mr. William G. Caldwell.
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New Jersey:	Colonel Joseph W. Scott, Mr. John McDowell, Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, Hon. E. B. D. Ogden.
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Massachusetts:	Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Colonel James W. Sever, John Homans, M. D., Hon. Charles S. Davis, Hon. Franklin Pierce.
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The secretary-general stated that in pursuance of the directions of the last meeting, he had advised the secretaries of the State Societies of the publication intended to be made by the General Society, and has received the following replies to the inquiry as to the number of copies that would probably be required :

From Colonel Sever, that the Society of Massachusetts had voted that the secretary be authorized to subscribe for one hundred and fifty copies of said work, at one dollar per volume, for the use of the Society, with authority to draw on the Secretary for the amount, when the books are published.

Mr. Buck states, that the Society of New Jersey passed a resolution to take fifty copies.

Mr. Sproat, that the Society of Pennsylvania will require one hundred copies.

Mr. Jamison writes: "I am authorized to say, the Society of Maryland will subscribe for thirty copies of the proposed work."

The secretary-general also reports, that, as directed by a resolution of the last general meeting, application was made to the secretaries of the State Societies, requesting them to examine the records of the respective Societies, for minutes or notes of the general meeting in 1796, and of those from 1804 to 1825.

Replies have been received from most of the State Societies that examination had been made, but without useful results. No additional information has been obtained by this measure.

The attempt to carry into effect the second portion of this resolution, to have the minutes of the general meetings from 1787 to the present time copied into the original book of minutes, had hardly been more successful.

The minutes of 1790 are copied in full.

There are minutes of meetings in the years 1791, 1796, 1799 and 1800, 1802, 1805 and 1811, with lists of delegates in 1812.

From this last date till 1825 there is no record whatever; it may even be doubted whether the attempt was made to hold a meeting in all that time.

The preceding secretary-general, in response to a similar resolution, reported in 1839, that he had found it impracticable to have recorded the minutes of the General Society prior to May 4th, 1829.

After such a declaration by an officer of the well-known accuracy of Mr. Johnston, there can be very little hope of success from any later attempt to complete the archives, however desirable it may be to have them in unbroken series.

The family of Mr. Jackson, secretary-general during most of that long space of time, had taken the pains to examine many papers in their possession, which search has not brought to light any proceedings between the years 1812 and 1825.

The last alternative seems to be to record in a separate book the minutes, sometimes fragmentary, of the meetings mentioned, with the addition of any other suitable material from collateral sources.

It is probable that in this way a record may be preserved of all the elections of general officers.

While on this subject, the secretary-general begs leave to point out to the Society some original documents of great interest, the signatures of the general officers of the army, of the engineers of Hazen's corps and of the First Partisan Legion.

In their present condition they are very liable to loss or injury, a risk that would be diminished by having them suitably bound.

On motion of Col. Sever, it was resolved, that the secretary-general be authorized to have bound in a proper form for their preservation the lists of original signatures in the archives of the General Society.

The treasurer-general read his report on the funds of the Society.

On motion of Dr. Homans, a committee was appointed to examine the same. The president-general named Dr. Homans, Mr. Harmar and Mr. Ward to be that committee, who after examining the account made a report. The report of the treasurer, the account, and the report of the committee to examine the same, were ordered to be entered on the minutes, and are as follows:

Report of JOSEPH WARREN SCOTT, Treasurer-General to the Cincinnati of the United States.

It is the melancholy duty of the treasurer-general to report to the Cincinnati of the United States, the death of our excellent friend and brother John H. Markland, Esq. He departed this life at Philadelphia, on the twenty fifth day of December, A. D. 1860.

Mr. Markland was the son of the brave and gallant Captain Markland, of the American Army of the Revolution, of honorable fame. The son inherited all his father's virtues, and succeeded to his seat in the Cincinnati of the United States. At the time of his death he was assistant treasurer-general of this Society and also the treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Society.

We deeply lament his death while we bear witness to his high integrity and honor, and to the fidelity and zeal with which he promoted the interests and objects of this Society—ordained and established by our fathers.

Shortly after the decease of Mr. Markland, the treasurer-general repaired to Philadelphia to settle the accounts of the Society with the administrators of his late assistant, and to take charge of the funds, etc. As upon investigation it was apparent that he could not obtain an immediate settlement with the estate of Mr. Markland, and the delay subjected the Society to unnecessary expense, it became expedient to secure the services of a faithful person, a resident of the city of Philadelphia, one who had the interests of the Society at heart, and possessed the requisite knowledge and skill to insure a speedy and faithful attention to the subject, and a prudent investment of the increasing funds. In Mr. Robert Adams, a member of the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati, at that time their assistant treasurer, more recently and at present their treasurer, was found combined all the desired qualifications; and therefore to the said Robert Adams, the treasurer-general, under his hand and seal, made the appointment of assistant to the treasurer-general.

Mr. Adams accepted the appointment and assumed the duties.

The treasurer-general has now the happiness to report that Mr. Adams has faithfully, as well as with ability and justice, settled the accounts of Mr. Markland with the Society, and from time to time has promptly invested the accrued interest of former investments.

The treasurer-general subjoins to this report his account current with this Society, and the account current of Mr. Adams, assistant to the treasurer-general; together also with Mr. Adams's statement of the account of the late Mr. Markland to the time of his death, and the final settlement with the administrators. From all of which it will appear that the sum of sixteen hundred and fifty dollars, the net amount received from the Government (exclusive of the small bill of expenses incurred in collecting the same) being put at interest and carefully compounded, now exhibits a productive capital of two thousand nine hundred and thirty-two dollars and twenty-four cents, all bearing interest from February, 1863, and that there remains in the hands of the treasurer-general the sum of eight dollars and fifteen cents, subject to the order of the Cincinnati of the United States.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. SCOTT, Treasurer-General, in account current with the Cincinnati of the United States.

This accountant charges himself with the following:

By balance on hand from last settlement,	\$25 65
1860. May 2. By cash received by reason of assessments made	
this day:	
From Massachusetts Society,	15 00
" New York, "	15 00
" New Jersey, "	15 00
" Pennsylvania, "	15 00
" Maryland, "	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$100 65

Per contra, he prays allowance.

1860. May 2. To cash to John H. Markland,	\$75 00
1861. Feb. 7. To cash paid expenses going to Philadelphia and	
return,	6 25
May 2. To cash paid Mr. Adams,	5 00
To cash paid expenses going to Philadelphia	
and return,	6 25
Balance in hand of this accountant,	8 15
	<hr/>
	\$100 65

J. W. SCOTT, Treasurer-General.

New York, May 13th, 1863.

The undersigned, a committee appointed to examine and audit the treasurer's account, respectfully report that they find the same correct and properly vouched.

JOHN HOMANS,
JOSIAH W. HARMAN,
HENRY H. WARD,

Committee.

New York, May 13th, 1863.

J. W. Scott, Treasurer-General of the Society of the Cincinnati, in account with R. Adams, assistant to the Treasurer.

1861.	Dr.	
May 10. To cash purchased through B. W. Adams, \$82.30 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of 1840, per certificate No. 209, May 11, 1861, at 75 per cent.,	\$61 73	
June 12. To cash purchased through B. W. Adams, \$120.35 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of February 16, 1833, per certificates No. 295, June 14, 1861, \$ 20 35 No. 301, June 15, 1861, 100 00	<hr/> \$120 35 at 77½ per cent.,	93 27
Sept. 2. To cash, purchased through B. W. Adams, \$81.50 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of 1832, per certificate No. 384, Sept. 9, 1861, at 75 per cent.,	61 54	
1862.		
Feb. 6. To cash purchased through B. W. Adams, \$79.35 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of April 22, 1829, per certificate No. 462, Feb. 10, 1862, at 82 per cent.,	65 06	
Aug. 9. To cash purchased through B. W. Adams, \$81.70 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of 1839, per certificate No. 342, August 30, 1862, at 90 per cent.,	73 53	
1863.		
Feb. 3. To cash purchased through B. W. Adams, \$98.60 Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan of April 3, 1840, per certificate No. 332, Feb. 11, 1863, at 106 per cent.,	104 52	
	<hr/>	\$459 65
1861.	Cr.	
May 9. By cash received from you,	\$5 00	
" 10. By cash received from J. McDowell, Jr., six months' interest on Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan, due Feb. 1, 1861,	56 73	
June 12. By cash received of John S. Swaby, administrator of the late John H. Markland, assistant treasurer-general Society of the Cincinnati, balance of his account as per account rendered,	93 27	

Sept. 12. By cash received this day from J. McDowell, Jr., six months' interest on Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan, due Aug. 1, 1861,	\$61 54
1862.	
Feb. 6. By cash received from J. McDowell, Jr., six months' interest on Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan, due 1st inst.,	\$63 48
Add 2½ per cent. allowed for specie by State,	1 58
	65 06
Aug. 8. By cash received from J. McDowell, Jr., six months' interest on Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan, due 1st inst.,	65 36
Add allowance for specie funds by the State,	8 17
	73 53
1863.	
Feb. 2. By cash received from J. McDowell, Jr., six months' interest on Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan, due 1st inst.,	67 30
Sold gold 55½ per cent.,	37 22
	104 52
	\$459 65

Errors and omissions excepted.

ROBERT ADAMS,
Assistant to the Treasurer-General Society of the Cincinnati.

Philadelphia, April 15, 1863.

List of Stock of General Society of Cincinnati in names of JOSEPH W. SCOTT, JOHN H. MARKLAND, and JOHN McDOWELL, JR., trustees, in possession of MR. MARKLAND at the time of his death, and are now in chest of Pennsylvania Society of Cincinnati, deposited for safe keeping in Philadelphia Bank, Philadelphia :

Date of Purchase.	Date of Act.	Amount.
June 30, 1851, No. 2,871.	February 16, 1833.	Pennsylvania 5 per cent., \$1,750 00
Aug. 6, 1855, "	5,006. March 18, 1880.	" " 46 96
Feb. 18, 1856, "	5,688. April 16, 1845.	" " 50 20
Aug. 26, 1856, "	5,866. April 16, 1845.	" " 53 16
Feb. 5, 1857, "	5,058. March 18, 1830.	" " 58 73
Aug. 12, 1858, "	104. April 16, 1845.	" " 60 65
Feb. 11, 1859, "	26. March 27, 1833.	" " 84 20
Feb. 21, 1859, "	112. April 5, 1834.	" " 108 10
Aug. 9, 1859, "	460. April 16, 1845.	" " 110 50
Feb. 14, 1860, "	281. March 18, 1830.	" " 70 98
		\$2,888 48

List of Stock of General Society of Cincinnati in names of JOSEPH W. SCOTT, and JOHN McDOWELL, JR., trustees, purchased by ROBERT ADAMS, and are now in chest of Pennsylvania Society of Cincinnati, deposited for safe keeping in Philadelphia Bank, Philadelphia:

Date of Purchase	Date of Act	Amount.
May 10, 1861.	Jan. 28, 1840.	Pennsylvania 5 per cent., \$82 80
June 12, 1861.	" 16, 1888.	" " 100 00
June 12, 1861.	" 16, 1888.	" " 20 85
Sept. 2, 1861.	Mar. 80, 1882.	" " 81 51
Feb. 6, 1862.	Apr. 22, 1829.	" " 79 85
Aug. 9, 1862.	Feb. 9, 1889.	" " 81 70
Feb. 8, 1863.	Apr. 8, 1840.	" " 98 60
		\$343 81

The secretary-general read a note from Miss Ann W. Jackson. It is a reply to the communication of the resolution passed by the last triennial meeting on the announcement of the death of the late assistant treasurer-general, William Jackson.

Dr. Homans, of Massachusetts, moved the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That in the death of our late brother, John H. Markland, of Pennsylvania, late assistant treasurer-general, the Society has lost a much esteemed and valuable member.

The committee appointed by the General Society of the Cincinnati to examine the archives of the Society and to collect documents and matters for publication, respectfully report :

That it is with regret they have to announce that their work is still incomplete.

It will be remembered that at the last triennial meeting the committee reported the general heads of the matter which they proposed to publish.

Much material has been collected and arranged for publication, in accordance with the design submitted in that report.

It will also be remembered that at the same meeting it was announced that the committee had then recently ascertained that the records and papers of the Virginia State Society were still in existence, deposited among the public archives of the State in Richmond. Also, that the Governor of Virginia, who was passing through Philadelphia (where the meeting was being held) while the Society was in session, was kind enough to promise all the facilities in his power to allow copies of those records, etc , to be taken.

Arrangements were made immediately on the adjournment of the meeting with a view of procuring these copies. Shortly thereafter, the disturbed condition of the country interrupted these efforts, and the committee are still without these documents.

In the meantime the collecting and arrangement of the materials on hand was progressing, but with reference to and in the hope of procuring the Virginia records as a part of the proposed publication. So that the labor which has been expended since the last meeting, having been directed with that object in view, would need an entire revision and perhaps remodelling, should the hope be abandoned of yet procuring these desirable records.

The committee do not feel authorized to proceed with the publication, unless so instructed by the Society, while there is still a hope of supplying the important blank which the absence of the Virginia documents would occasion.

They submit to the Society the causes of delay, for such action or instructions as the general meeting may deem proper.

New York, May 13th, 1863.

On motion of Mr. Harris, the committee was continued.

Mr. Daveis, the chairman of the committee on the constitution of the Society and all matters relating thereto, being absent, Governor Fish made a report of progress.

On motion of Colonel Scott, the committee was continued and instructed to report at the next triennial meeting.

The committee on the descendants of French officers who served in the army of the Revolution, now asking to be admitted members of the Society, made a verbal report.

On motion of Colonel Sever the subject was indefinitely postponed.

The president-general read a letter from Edouard Nicolson, 26 rue d'Amsterdam, Paris, stating his claims on the country for services, and applying for aid.

On motion of Colonel Sever the letter was referred to the president-general, to be acted on according to his discretion.

The president-general read a letter from the Honorable Mr. Daveis, the vice-president-general, regretting that the present state of his health prevents his attending the present meeting.

It was, on motion of Colonel Scott,

Resolved, That the Society tender their affectionate regards to the Honorable Charles S. Daveis, vice-president-general, together with their regrets that the state of his health has deprived them of the pleasure of his presence; but cannot induce them to dispense with his name in connection with the office of vice-president-general. Also, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mr. Daveis by the secretary-general.

On motion of Mr. Harris, it was

Ordered, That the election for officers of the Society be first in order to-morrow.

The meeting then adjourned to meet to-morrow at ten A. M.

May 14th.

The Society met agreeably to adjournment, and the minutes of yesterday's meeting were read.

Present:—Officers and delegates as yesterday, except Mr. Ward.

On motion of Mr. Caldwell that tellers be appointed for the election of general officers, the president-general named Colonel James W. Sever and Mr. Peleg Hall. A recess was then had, after which the committee reported as follows:

The tellers appointed to collect the ballots for officers for the ensuing three years, reported the following gentlemen to be elected:

Honorable Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.

Honorable Charles S. Daveis, of Massachusetts, vice-president-general.

Thomas McEuen, M.D., of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.

John McDowell, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of Dr. Homans, it was

Resolved, That the name of the mover of a motion alone need be recorded, and not that of the person who seconded it.

On motion of Colonel Scott, it was

Resolved, That Mr. Robert Adams be appointed a trustee of the funds of the Society, in lieu of Mr. John H. Markland, deceased.

On motion of the same gentleman, the following resolution was likewise adopted:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted on 7th February, 1855, whereby it was ordered "that hereafter no other title than that of *Mr.* be used in designating members in the minutes of the General Society," be and the same is hereby rescinded.

The Rev. Mr. Baury, chairman of the committee on the restoration of Societies in States where it had become extinct read the following:

"The committee appointed at the triennial meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, assembled in the city of Philadelphia, May 2d, 1860, for the purpose of 'conferring with such persons as are interested in the restoration of the Society in the several States where the association of the Cincinnati has been suspended, or is now extinct,' respectfully report:

"That the disturbed state of the country has rendered it impracticable for your committee to prosecute the object of their appointment with any reasonable prospect of success.

"A correspondence has, however, been opened on the subject of your committee's appointment, with Samuel H. Parsons, Esq., of Middletown, Connecticut, from which the following facts have been adduced:

"1. That the late General Parsons, of the army of the Revolution, was president of the Connecticut Society of the Cincinnati at the time of its dissolution.

"2. That the records and papers of said Society were deposited or are now in the Connecticut Historical Rooms in the city of Hartford.

"3. That individuals claiming to be the representatives of original members of said Connecticut Society, have been admitted to membership, with all its rights and privileges, in several of the States where the Society of the Cincinnati still maintains an honorable existence.

"In submitting this their report to the General Society of the Cincinnati, the undersigned respectfully request to be discharged from the further prosecution of a subject which, under more favorable circumstances in our national history, may in its results prove of importance to the best interest of our venerable association.

"Signed in behalf of the committee,

"ALFRED L. BAURY,
"Chairman.

"New York, May 14, 1863."

The report was accepted and the committee discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The secretary-general mentioned that, in the minutes of 1839, it was stated that the original lists of the General Society, the copper-plate of the diploma and the seal of the Society, were in possession of the State Society of Pennsylvania.

It now appears that these lists are with the archives of the General Society (they were exhibited to the meeting); the copper-plate is also in possession of the secretary-general. The only seal known to exist is that of the State Society of Pennsylvania, as appeared from an impression of the said seal shown to the present meeting.

Colonel Scott offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the trustees of the funds of this Society be authorized in their discretion to sell and dispose of such as consist of the Pennsylvania five per cent. loan, and to invest the proceeds in the stock of the United States.

On motion of Colonel Scott, the Rev. Charles C. Beatty, of Steubenville, Ohio, member of the State Society of New Jersey, was appointed one of the chaplains of this Society.

The treasurer-general informed the meeting that the expenses of the General Society on this occasion would be assumed by the State Society of New York.

When, on motion of Dr. Homans, it was resolved, that the thanks of the meeting be presented to the State Society of New York, for the very cordial welcome they have extended to the officers of the General Society and the delegates, on the present occasion, and for the handsome entertainments provided.

The treasurer-general also stated that an assessment of twenty dollars on each of the State Societies would be necessary for the expenses of printing minutes, circulars, binding, etc., which the assistant treasurer was directed to collect, and hold subject to the order of the secretary-general.

On motion of Colonel Sever, it was resolved, that the next triennial meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, be held on the second Wednesday of May, in the year 1866, in the city of Trenton, New Jersey, and that the president-general have the power in the interim, to change the place of meeting to the city of Baltimore, if, upon consultation with the officers of the different State Societies, it shall be deemed expedient to do so, of which due notice shall be given by the secretary-general, to the different State Societies.

The secretary-general asked for information as to the signification of the term "Original Book of Minutes."

It was on motion of Dr. Torrey resolved, that the book labeled "General Society, Vol. I." is intended by this expression.

The rough minutes were read and approved, and the Society was adjourned without day; it being understood that the officers and delegates would meet the State Society of New York, at six o'clock this evening at dinner.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Secretary-General.

1866

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

NINETIETH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY,

MAY 9TH, 1866.

The General Society met in triennial meeting at the Trenton House, Trenton, New Jersey, in conformity with a resolution of the last triennial meeting in New York; the usual notice having been sent to the general officers and to the secretaries of the several State Societies.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wells, in the absence of the chaplains of the Society.

The president-general took the chair at one o'clock, there being present:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general; George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general; Colonel Joseph W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general; John McDowell, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

And the following delegates, viz., from

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Mr. William S. Popham,
Mr. William I. Graham,
Rev. Marinus Willett,

New Jersey :

Col. Joseph W. Scott,
Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Col. A. M. Cumming,
Mr. William B. Dayton,
Mr. John McDowell.

Maryland :

General Tench Tilghman.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. H. L. Sproat,
Mr. J. W. Harmar,
Dr. William A. Irvine,
Mr. Grant Weidman.
Mr. George W. Harris.

Massachusetts :

Col. J. W. Sever,
Rev. E. M. P. Wells,
Mr. Samuel C. Cobb.

The minutes of the last triennial meeting were read, and, on motion of Mr. Sproat, they were adopted.

The president-general read a letter from the Hon. James Simons, of Charleston, South Carolina, vice-president of the South Carolina Society, stating that he had been appointed a delegate to represent that Society at this meeting, but that he had, to his great regret, been prevented by important professional business from being present.

The president-general read a letter from the secretary-general, Dr. Thomas McEuen, from Charleston, regretting his inability to be present at the meeting.

On motion of Mr. Sproat, the president-general appointed the following named gentlemen a committee to examine the credentials of delegates, viz.: Mr. Sproat, Colonel Sever and Mr. McDowell.

The president-general stated to the meeting that in conformity with a resolution passed at the last triennial meeting, authorizing him to change the place of the present meeting from Trenton to Baltimore, if, upon consultation with the officers of the different State Societies, it should be deemed expedient so to do, he had given the matter his attention, and after consultation had arrived at the conclusion that it was not expedient to make the change.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the president-general to examine the account of the treasurer-general; and the following named gentlemen were appointed, viz.: Mr. Cobb, General Tilghman and Mr. Popham.

The committee on credentials of delegates reported the following gentlemen as having been appointed by the several State Societies, viz.:

Massachusetts :

Rev. Alfred L. Baury,
Hon. Franklin Pierce,
Col. James W. Sever,
Mr. Samuel C. Cobb,
Rev. E. M. P. Wells.

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Mr. William S. Popham,
Mr. Henry H. Ward,
Mr. William I. Graham,
Rev. Marinus Willett.

New Jersey :

Col. Jos. Warren Scott,
Mr. John McDowell,
Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Col. Alex. M. Cumming,
Mr. William B. Dayton.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. H. L. Sproat,
Mr. Grant Weidman,
Dr. William A. Irvine,
Mr. Josiah W. Harmar,
Mr. George W. Harris.

Maryland :

Gen. Tench Tilghman.

And, on motion of Mr. Graham, the report was accepted and ordered to be placed on the minutes.

The committee on the account of the treasurer-general reported that they had examined the account and found it correct, and, on motion of Mr. Graham, it was ordered to be entered on the minutes. It is as follows:

General Society of the Cincinnati, in Account with the Treasurer.

	DR.	
June 10. To cash paid G. W. Harris <i>et al.</i> , for publishing election of officers,	\$3 90	
July 8. To cash paid Thomas McEuen, M.D., for bills, printing reports, etc.,	36 25	
Aug. 29. To cash for 5 per cent. loan of Pennsylvania, No. 131, at 100, March 27, 1849,	87 51	
1863.		
Feb. 10. To cash for 5 per cent. loan of Pennsylvania, No. 411, 95½ per cent., June 11, 1849, \$112 64, . . .	107 57	
Sept. 28. To cash paid for \$2,000 United States 7-30 loan, at par, 2,000 00		
" 28. To cash paid interest due since Aug. 15,	17 60	
1864.		
Feb. 15. To cash paid for \$100 United States 7-30 loan, . . .	100 00	
1865.		
May 8. To cash in hands of treasurer,	10 15	
		<u>\$2,362 98</u>
1863.	CR.	
May 14. By cash received at stated meeting, held in New York:		
Massachusetts Society,	20 00	
Pennsylvania "	20 00	
New Jersey "	20 00	
Aug. 10. Interest on Pennsylvania 5's (in gold),	69 64	
" 10. Premium on gold,	17 87	
1864.		
Feb. 1. Interest on Pennsylvania 5's, currency,	107 57	
Aug. 6. " " " (no premium),	74 39	
Sept. 28. Sold certificate No. 3,871, Pennsylvania 5's, for \$1,750, by B. W. Adams,	1,708 75	
1865.		
Feb. 1. Interest on Pennsylvania 5's,	32 82	
" 15. " \$2,000 7-30 United States loan,	73 00	
Aug. 1. " Pennsylvania 5's,	32 82	
" 15. " \$2,100 7-30 United States loan,	76 65	
1866.		
Feb. 2. " Pennsylvania 5's,	32 82	
" 15. " \$2,100 7-30 United States loan,	76 65	
		<u>\$2,362 98</u>

1866.

May 8. By cash in hands of treasurer, \$10 15

The funds of the Society are invested as follows:

In Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan,	1,382 39
In United States 7-30 loan,	2,100 00
	<hr/>
	\$3,482 39

JOHN McDOWELL,
Assistant Treasurer.

Trenton, N. J., May 9, 1866.

Colonel Sever announced the death of the Hon. Charles S. Daveis, late vice-president-general of the Society; and, on motion of General Tilghman, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Society has heard with sincere regret of the death of its venerated vice-president-general, the late Hon. Charles S. Daveis, of Portland, Maine. His regularity in attending the meetings of the Society until prevented by age and infirmity; his punctuality in the execution of every duty pertaining to his office, or imposed by the Society; the remarkable urbanity of his deportment, and affectionateness of disposition towards his fellow-members, combined to make him an honored member of our association, and to endear his memory to all those who were so fortunate as to enjoy the privilege of his acquaintance.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of our deceased vice-president our sincere condolence on their bereavement, and that the secretary-general be directed to send them a certified copy of these resolutions.

Colonel Sever announced the death of the Rev. Alfred L. Baury, of Massachusetts, formerly president of the Society of that State, and a chaplain of this Society, and read an interesting memoir of the life and family of that gentleman; and, on motion of Mr. Sproat, a committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, was appointed to prepare resolutions in honor of the late Mr. Baury, viz.: Judge Elmer, Rev. Mr. Wells, Mr. Graham, and Mr. Sproat.

Mr. Sproat declined serving on the committee on account of sickness in his family, which necessitated his absence (but afterwards withdrew his declination), and the duties of chairman of the committee devolved upon Mr. Graham.

The Rev. Mr. Wells announced the death of the Rev. David Smith, of Massachusetts, late a chaplain of this Society, and its oldest member; and, on motion of Judge Elmer, the preparation of resolutions in his memory were referred to the same committee as the foregoing.

Mr. Sproat announced the death of Mr. John R. Latimer, late president of the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati; and, on his motion, resolutions on the subject were referred to the same committee.

General Tilghman announced the death of Mr. C. C. Jamison, late vice-president of the Maryland Society; and, on his motion, it was resolved that the preparation of resolutions pertinent to his death be referred to the same committee.

On motion of Mr. Wells, General Tilghman was added to that committee.

At the suggestion of Judge Elmer, General Tilghman, of Maryland, made an interesting statement in regard to the present condition and future prospects of the Maryland State Society.

The committee "to examine the archives of the Society, and to collect documents and matters for publication," reported progress, and, on motion of Judge Elmer, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the committee for their labors up to the present time, and that they be continued, with full power to act.

General Tilghman, from the committee "on the constitution of the Society, and all matters relating thereto," made a report, and moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Graham, it was

Resolved, That the Society go into a ballot for officers to serve for the next three years, to-morrow morning.

On motion of General Tilghman, it was

Resolved, That the next meeting of the Society be held in the city of Baltimore, on the third Wednesday in May, 1869.

On motion of Colonel Sever, it was

Resolved, That when the Society adjourn, it adjourn to meet to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the Society adjourned.

Thursday, May 10th.

The Society met at ten o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the meeting held yesterday were read and approved.

The president-general appointed Mr. Cobb and Mr. Harmar, tellers, to conduct the election for officers.

After a recess of ten minutes, the tellers reported the election of the following gentlemen, viz.:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.

Thomas McEuen, M. D., of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

Colonel J. W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.

John McDowell, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

For vice-president-general, Colonel J. W. Sever received sixteen votes, and General Tench Tilghman twelve votes. There being no choice for vice-president, another ballot was had, which resulted in the election of Colonel J. W. Sever, of Massachusetts, for vice-president-general.

Mr. Graham, from the committee appointed yesterday to draft resolutions in memory of deceased members, presented the following report, and, upon motion, the resolutions accompanying the report were unanimously adopted, viz. :

"The committee appointed to draft resolutions in regard to the melancholy announcements that were made of the decease of the Rev. Alfred Baury, D. D., late president of the Massachusetts State Society of the Cincinnati; of John R. Latimer, late president of the Pennsylvania State Society; of Colonel C. C. Jamison, late vice-president of the Maryland State Society, and of the Rev. David Smith, D. D., one of the chaplains of this Society, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have listened with great respect and profound admiration to the eulogies which were delivered in announcing the deaths of the above-named eminent gentlemen, and regret that they have not time to compile a short biographical notice of the deceased, to serve as an example and a guide to the present generation, but offer the following resolution as some slight expression of the feeling these announcements have caused the members of this Society :

"Resolved, That the Society of the Cincinnati, in general convention assembled, have heard with sincere regret the announcement of the decease of the Rev. Alfred L. Baury, D. D., of John R. Latimer, of Colonel C. C. Jamison, and of the Rev. David Smith, D. D., esteemed brothers of this Society, and whilst we deeply mourn their death, and deplore the loss the Society has sustained by their demise, we still bear witness to their high honor and integrity, and to the sincerity and zeal with which they devoted themselves to promote the welfare of this Society, earnest and faithful in well-doing, and with the laudable ambition of sustaining and perpetuating this institution founded by our Revolutionary forefathers.

Resolved, That the secretary be directed to furnish a copy of the above resolution to each one of the families of the deceased.

(Signed), " E. M. P. WELLS,
 " WILLIAM IRVING GRAHAM,
 " TENCH TILGHMAN,
 " HARRIS L. SPROAT."

The secretary-general was directed to address copies of these resolutions to the families of the deceased.

General Tilghman moved that the accumulated interest on the fund received from the United States treasury in 1851 be apportioned amongst

suffering descendants of original members of the Society in the State of Georgia; and, upon a division, the ayes were 5, and the nays 24. So the resolution was lost.

On motion of Colonel Sever, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of twenty dollars be made upon each of the State Societies to defray the expenses of this meeting.

On motion of Mr. Graham, it was

Resolved, That the trustees of the funds of this Society be authorized, when in their judgment they can do it advantageously, to dispose of the Pennsylvania stock now held by them, and to invest the proceeds in United States stocks.

On motion of Mr. Graham, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Society be presented to the State Society of New Jersey for the very cordial welcome extended to them on the present occasion, and for the elegant entertainments provided.

The minutes were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Harmar, the Society adjourned.

GEORGE W. HARRIS,
Assistant Secretary-General.

1869

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

NINETY-THIRD YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

BARNUM'S CITY HOTEL, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND,

MAY 18TH, 1869.

The General Society met in stated triennial meeting in the city of Baltimore, in conformity with a resolution of the last triennial meeting in Trenton ; the usual notice having been sent to the general officers and to the secretaries of the several State Societies, by the secretary-general.

A prayer was offered by the Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D.

The president-general took the chair at eleven o'clock, A. M., there being present:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general ; Colonel James W. Sever, of Massachusetts, vice-president-general ; Thomas McEuen, M. D., of Pennsylvania, secretary-general ; George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.

And the following delegates, viz., from

Massachusetts :

Colonel James W. Sever,
Mr. William Perkins,
Dr. Winslow Warren,
Mr. Henry A. Peirce,
Mr. Samuel C. Cobb.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. Harris L. Sproat,
Mr. William Wayne,
Mr. Peleg Hall,
Mr. Wm. G. Caldwell,
Mr. Richard Dale.

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Mr. William S. Popham,
Mr. Wm. Irving Graham,
Rev. Marinus Willett.

Maryland :

General Tench Tilghman,
Commodore A. H. Kilty,
Mr. James L. McLane,
Mr. Otho H. Williams.

New Jersey :

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
Mr. William B. Dayton.

South Carolina.

Hon. James Simons,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, that the president-general appoint a committee to examine credentials of delegates:

Thereupon the president-general appointed Mr. S. C. Cobb of Massachusetts, Mr. H. L. Sproat, of Pennsylvania, and General Tench Tilghman, of Maryland, of such committee, who shortly reported the following delegates to be duly accredited from the respective State Societies:

Massachusetts :

Colonel James W. Sever,
Mr. William Perkins,
Dr. Winslow Warren,
Mr. Henry A. Peirce,
Mr. Samuel C. Cobb.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. Harris L. Sproat,
Mr. William Wayne,
Mr. Peleg Hall,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Wm. G. Caldwell.

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Mr. Henry H. Ward,
Mr. William S. Popham,
Rev. Marinus Willett,
Mr. William Irving Graham.

Maryland :

General Tench Tilghman,
Mr. James L. McLane,
Mr. R. McHenry,
Mr. Otho H. Williams,
Commodore A. H. Kilty.

New Jersey :

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Mr. James P. Thomas,
Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
Mr. William B. Dayton,
Colonel Alex. M. Cumming.

South Carolina :

Hon. James Simons,
Maj. Robert Q. Pinckney,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.,
Mr. Thomas R. Egleston,
Major Louis DeSaussure.

General Tilghman then read the following letter, which, on motion of Judge Elmer, was referred to a committee consisting of Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, Hon. James Simons and Colonel J. W. Sever.

" **BALTIMORE**, May 19th, 1869.

" *To the General Society of the Cincinnati :*

" **GENTLEMEN**:—By a unanimous resolve of the Maryland Society of the Cincinnati, we are directed to inform you that your brethren tender you a cordial welcome to Maryland.

" They have looked forward with pleasure to the return of the associations by which we and our fathers have so long been united, and which we hope may continue to unite our descendants for all time to come. We wish that we could offer you a still more cordial greeting; but whilst assuring you of our readiness to meet our contribution to the general expenses of the Society, we are pained to be unable to offer you a more substantial evidence of our social regard.

"A concurrence of unfortunate circumstances which have occurred principally since the arrangement for your meeting here, have seriously impaired the condition of our Society. During a comparatively short time we have lost nearly two-thirds of our members, while the accessions have been very small; and, notwithstanding the extension of our terms of admission, the present number of active members is only twelve, who are mostly young in years and in business.

"We have sustained a serious loss in one of our investments, whilst the necessities of our pensioners have required increased aid, which we have considered a paramount duty, and with which we cannot feel that we should be justified in interfering.

"In the spirit of candor, which should maintain between brethren, we offer you this explanation.

"We have only to add the repetition of our welcome, and the sincere hope that before many years we may have the pleasure of meeting you here under more favorable circumstances.

"Your friends and brethren,

"TENCH TILGHMAN,
"J. L. McLANE,
"O. H. WILLIAMS,
"A. H. KILTY."

In the absence of the treasurer-general and of the assistant treasurer-general, on account of ill health, Mr. Dayton read the following report of the assistant treasurer general, which, on motion of Mr. McEuen, was referred to a committee for examination. The committee consisted of Messrs. William Irving Graham, Henry A. Peirce and James L. McLane, who shortly reported as follows, which report and the account were ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The committee appointed to examine the treasurer-general's report, beg to report that, in the absence of vouchers and securities, they are unable strictly to audit the account, which, however, they are satisfied is correct, and therefore recommend its adoption by the General Society.

W. I. GRAHAM,
HENRY A. PEIRCE,
J. L. McLANE.

The Treasurer-General in Account with the General Society of the Cincinnati.

Dr.

1866.	May 8.	To balance in hand of treasurer,	\$10 15
	June 5.	" cash received from Massachusetts Society,	20 00
	" 5.	" " " New Jersey "	20 00
1867.	Feb. 15.	" " " Pennsylvania "	20 00

1866.	July 18.	To cash from sale of certificates of Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loan (by B. W. Adams), amounting to \$1,382.39 @ 92½,	\$1,264 89
	Aug. 1.	To cash from interest on Pennsylvania 5's,	32 82
	" 15.	" " " " " \$3,100 United States 7-30 loan,	113 15
1867.	Feb. 15.	To cash from interest on \$3,400 United States 7-30 loan,	124 10
	Aug. 4.	To cash from interest on \$1,300 United States 7-30 loan,	31 85
	" 15.	To cash from interest on \$2,100 United States 7-30 loan,	50 90
1868.	Jan. 1.	To cash from interest on \$3,400 United States 5-20 loan,	102 00
	" 1.	To cash from premium on coin, 33 per cent.,	33 66
	July 1.	" " " interest on \$3,400 United States 5-20 loan,	102 00
	" 1.	To cash from premium on coin, 40 per cent.,	40 80
1869.	Jan. 1.	" " " interest on \$3,400 United States loan,	102 00
	" "	To cash from premium on coin, 35 per cent.,	35 70
			<hr/> <hr/> \$2,105 02 <hr/> <hr/>
	May 1.	To balance in hand of treasurer,	\$125 70

CR.

1866.	June 8.	By cash paid G. W. Harris, Esq., for bills, printing and publishing election,	\$43 52
	July 25.	By cash paid for advertising in Baltimore Gazette, May 16,	4 00
	" 18.	By cash paid for 7.30 United States Loans:	
		\$1,000 @ 104½,	1,042 50
		100 @ 104,	104 00
		100 @ 104,	104 00
		100 @ 104,	104 00
	July 25.	By cash paid for \$500 5-20 United States Loan @ 109,	545 00
	" 25.	By cash paid for interest due since on \$1,000,	31 30
	" 25.	By cash paid balance in treasurer's hand, . .	125 70
			<hr/> <hr/> \$2,104 02 <hr/> <hr/>

The funds of the Society are now invested in United States 5-20 bonds, amounting to \$3,900.

JOHN McDOWELL,
Assistant Treasurer-General.

On the part of the committee to examine the archives, the chairman of the committee, Mr. McEuen, made a verbal report. Further explanations of the history of the papers of the Society of Virginia were made by the president-general.

On motion of Mr. Graham the committee was continued.

Judge Elmer, of the committee on the communication from the State Society of Maryland, made the following report, which was ordered to be placed on the minutes :

"The General Society of the Cincinnati have received with feelings of cordial sympathy the communication of the Maryland Society, and join with its members in the hope that the feelings which so long bound our fathers together, may continue to unite us and our descendants for all time to come. We fully appreciate the motives which have justified that Society in considering the claims of their pensioners as paramount to all others; we coincide with them in expressing the wish that, at a not very remote future time we may have the pleasure of meeting them under more favorable circumstances.

"L. Q. C. ELMER,
"JAMES SIMONS,
"JAMES W. SEVER."

On motion of Mr. Graham,

Resolved, That after a recess till two o'clock, the election for general officers be held. The president-general named as tellers of said election for officers, Messrs. William S. Popham, W. G. Caldwell and James Simons, Jr.

Hon. Mr. Simons informed the meeting of the death of the late president of the South Carolina Society, Henry A. DeSaussure, Esq., in 1865.

General Tilghman announced the death of General John Speer Smith, late president of the State Society of Maryland, in 1867.

On motion of Dr. Warren, these eulogies were referred to the following committee of a delegate from every State Society.

Massachusetts:	Dr. Winslow Warren.
New York:	Mr. William I. Graham.
New Jersey:	Rev. Dr. Beatty.
Pennsylvania:	Mr. H. L. Sproat.
Maryland:	General Tench Tilghman.
South Carolina:	Hon. James Simons.

On motion of the vice-president-general, Colonel Sever, it was

Resolved, That the next general triennial meeting of the Society be held in the city of Boston, on the last Wednesday in May, 1872.

The recess above resolved on was now held.

At two o'clock the meeting was again organized and the election held.

The tellers made the following report, that there were thirty-two votes cast, all as follows:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.
 Colonel J. W. Sever, of Massachusetts, vice-president-general.
 Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.
 George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, assistant secretary-general.
 Colonel J. W. Scott, of New Jersey, treasurer-general.
 John McDowell, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

WILLIAM S. POPHAM,
 WILLIAM G. CALDWELL,
 JAMES SIMONS, JR.

The committee appointed to consider the announcement of the death of Henry A. DeSaussure, Esq., late president of the State Society of South Carolina, and that of General John Speer Smith, late president of the State Society of Maryland, reported:

"The committee appointed to draft resolutions in regard to the melancholy announcements that were made of the decease of Henry A. DeSaussure, late president of the State Society of the Cincinnati of South Carolina, and General John Speer Smith, late president of the State Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland, beg leave respectfully to report that they have listened with great respect and profound admiration to the eulogies which were delivered in announcing the deaths of the above-named eminent gentlemen, and regret that they have not time to compile a short biographical notice of the deceased, to serve as an example and a guide to the present generation, but offer the following resolution as some slight expression of the feeling those announcements have caused the members of this Society.

Resolved, That the Society of the Cincinnati in general convention assembled, have heard with sincere regret the announcement of the decease of Henry A. DeSaussure, late president of the State Society of the Cincinnati of South Carolina, and General John Speer Smith, late president of the State Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland, esteemed brothers of the Society. And whilst called upon to express the mournful tribute of our sorrow at that dispensation of Providence which has removed from our midst our dear brothers, and deplored the loss the Society has sustained by their demise, we still bear witness to the high integrity, and to the sincerity and zeal with which they devoted themselves to the promotion of the welfare of this Society, and hope that the bright example of their virtue and talents will still survive, and prove a future incentive to those who remain to emulate their fame and the honor they have acquired. And we further trust that their descendants will strive to imitate them in sustaining and perpetuating this Institution founded by our Revolutionary fathers.

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"Resolved, That the secretary of the Society be directed to furnish a copy of the above resolutions to each one of the families of the deceased.

" WINSLOW WARREN,
" W. LEVING GRAHAM,
" CHARLES C. BEATTY,
" TENCH TILGHMAN,
" H. L. SPROAT,
" JAMES SIMONS."

Which report was adopted and ordered to be put on the minutes, the members rising as the question was taken, as a mark of respect to the memory of their deceased fellow-members.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of forty dollars be made upon each of the State Societies, and that the treasurer-general be directed to pay the expenses of the meeting at Baltimore, and that he be authorized if necessary to sell one of the bonds belonging to the Society.

On motion of Mr. George W. Harris, it was

Resolved, That the different State Societies be requested to remit without delay, to the treasurer-general, the amount assessed upon them at this meeting, or that if they prefer to pay the amount at the present time, Mr. W. B. Dayton, of New Jersey, be authorized to receive the amount in behalf of the treasurer-general.

On motion of Mr. Harris, it was

Resolved, That as the treasurer-general and assistant treasurer-general are both detained by illness from this meeting, a committee of two be appointed to make the necessary arrangements to audit the expenses of the hotel for the meeting, and certify the same to the treasurer-general.

The president-general appointed Mr. George W. Harris and Mr. W. B. Dayton to be that committee.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the rough minutes were read and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the meeting was adjourned.

After the adjournment the officers and delegates dined together at the hotel, the Honorable Franklin Pierce, ex-President of the United States and a member of the Massachusetts State Society, being present.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Secretary-General.

1872

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

NINETY-SIXTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PARKER HOUSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

MAY 29TH, 1872.

The General Society convened in stated triennial meeting in the city of Boston in accordance with a resolution of the last triennial meeting in Baltimore; the usual notice having been sent to the general officers, to the delegates, or to the secretaries of the several State Societies.

At the appointed hour, 11 A. M., the meeting was called to order by the secretary-general, who read a letter from the president-general, dated Washington, D. C., May 18th, 1872, expressing his great regret not to be able to preside at the meeting, the business incident to the last weeks of the session of Congress being such as to require his constant presence at the seat of government.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Lothrop, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Hon. James Simons be requested to act as chairman until the election of vice-president take place.

General Simons took the chair, and made an acknowledgment of his sense of the honor conferred on him.

The assistant secretary-general read a list of the delegates to the present meeting reported by the president or secretaries of the respective State Societies:

South Carolina :

Hon. James Simons,
Mr. B. L. Pinckney,
Mr. Tho. Pinckney Lowndes,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.

Massachusetts :

Admiral H. K. Thatcher,
Mr. Samuel C. Cobb,
Dr. C. D. Homans,
Mr. William Perkins,
Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
 Mr. Wm. S. Popham,
 Mr. Henry H. Ward,
 Rev. Marinus Willett,
 Mr. John W. Greaton.

New Jersey :

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
 Mr. Wm. B. Buck,
 Mr. Clifford Stanley Sims,
 Mr. Wm. B. Dayton,
 Hon. John T. Nixon.

South Carolina :

Hon. James Simons,
 Mr. James Simons, Jr.

New York :

Mr. Wm. S. Popham,
 Rev. Marinus Willett,
 Mr. John W. Greaton.

New Jersey :

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
 Mr. Clifford Stanley Sims,
 Mr. Wm. B. Dayton,
 Hon. John T. Nixon.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. Richard Dale,
 Mr. James L. Harmar,
 Mr. William Wayne,
 Mr. Grant Weidman,
 Mr. Wm. G. Caldwell.

Maryland :

General Tench Tilghman,
 Com. A. H. Kilty,
 Mr. James L. McLane,
 Mr. James H. Barney,
 Mr. Otho H. Williams.

The list was read a second time, and the delegates present answered to their names as follows:

Massachusetts :

Admiral H. K. Thatcher,
 Mr. Samuel C. Cobb,
 Dr. C. D. Homans,
 Mr. William Perkins,
 Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

Pennsylvania :

Mr. Richard Dale,
 Mr. James L. Harmar,
 Mr. William Wayne,
 Mr. Grant Weidman,
 Mr. Wm. G. Caldwell.

Maryland :

General Tench Tilghman,
 Com. A. H. Kilty.

A prayer was offered by the Rev. Marinus Willett.

The assistant-secretary read the minutes of the last general meeting at Baltimore in 1869.

Rev. Dr. Lothrop stated that the duty of announcing the death of officers of the State Society of Massachusetts, which had taken place in the last three years, had been devolved on him. He accordingly made known the demise of Col. James Warren Sever, vice-president of the General Society, and president of the State Society of Massachusetts, born July 1st, 1799, died January 16th, 1871; and of Dr. Winslow Warren, born January 7th, 1795, died June 10th, 1871.

Judge Elmer announced the death of Col. Joseph Warren Scott, treasurer-general, and president of the State Society of New Jersey, April 27th, 1871; and of Mr. John McDowell, Jr., assistant treasurer-general, June 8th, 1869.

The secretary-general made known the death of Harris L. Sproat, vice-president of the State Society of Pennsylvania, on the 19th of January, 1872.

The Rev. Marinus Willett informed the meeting of the death of Mr. William Irving Graham, secretary of the State Society of New York.

On motion of Gen. Tilghman,

Resolved, That the above notices be referred to a committee of one member from each state.

The chairman appointed Gen. Tench Tilghman, Maryland; Dr. S. K. Lothrop, Massachusetts; Hon. Judge L. Q. C. Elmer, New Jersey; Mr. Grant Weidman, Pennsylvania; Mr. W. S. Popham, New York; and Mr. James Simons, Jr., South Carolina, to constitute the committee.

On motion of Mr. Harris, it was unanimously

Resolved, By the Society of the Cincinnati, in triennial meeting assembled, that they greatly regret the absence, on the present occasion, of the president-general of the Society, the Hon. Hamilton Fish, whose presence at the reunions of the Society is always a source of great gratification to the members, and whose dignified and impartial action as president elicits their admiration and respect.

Resolved, That the secretary-general be requested to transmit to the president-general a copy of this resolution.

On motion of Admiral Thatcher, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, and referred to a committee of one from each State.

WHEREAS, In consequence of inquiries from descendants of Revolutionary officers residing in Rhode Island and Connecticut, transmitted through Admiral Thatcher, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Greaton, of New York, as to whether the reorganization of defunct State Societies required the permission of the General Society;

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee, to consist of a member from each State Society, to inquire and report on the expediency and propriety of permitting (and upon what terms and conditions) the reorganization of any State Society, now dissolved, which might apply to the General Society for permission to reorganize.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was then ordered that the meeting take a recess till half past two o'clock.

On reassembling at that hour, the chairman named as the committee on Admiral Thatcher's resolution: Admiral H. K. Thatcher, Massachusetts; Mr. John W. Greaton, New York; Mr. William B. Dayton, New Jersey; Com. A. H. Kilty, Maryland; Mr. James L. Harmar, Pennsylvania; and Mr. James Simons, Jr., South Carolina.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Willett, it was

Resolved, That at this and every succeeding meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, the principles embodied in the original institution of the Society be read as a part of the regular proceedings.

On motion of Mr. Harmer, it was

Resolved, That each State Society be requested by the proper officer to report to the treasurer of the General Society the amount of its funds invested, the number of its beneficiaries, and the sums annually distributed among them.

General Tilghman submitted the following report of the committee on obituary notices :

"The committee to whom the eulogies of the deceased members were referred, respectfully submit the following report:

"WHEREAS, Five members of the Cincinnati have deceased since the last meeting of the General Society, viz.: Colonel James Warren Sever, vice-president-general; Colonel Joseph Warren Scott, treasurer-general; Mr. John McDowell, Jr., assistant treasurer-general; Dr. Winslow Warren, vice-president of the Massachusetts Society; Harris L. Sproat, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Society; and W. Irving Graham, secretary of the New York Society, and we desire to express and record our respect for their memories, our appreciation of their characters, and the value of their services: therefore, by the General Society of the Cincinnati assembled this day, May 29th, 1872, in Boston, Mass., be it

"*Resolved unanimously*, That while we bow with reverence and submission to the Divine appointments, we cannot suppress our regrets that in the death of these brothers, we are deprived of kindhearted and genial companions, of safe and wise counsellors, of associate members in this Society, zealous to promote all the good purposes and influences contemplated by its glorious founders; and in expressing our regret, we record also our determination to honor and cherish their memories, and in their relation to ourselves as well as in their relation to others, in other and wider spheres of life and action, to hold up their characters as Christian gentlemen and citizens, as worthy of all respect and imitation.

"*Resolved*, That the secretary-general be directed to send a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution to the family of each of our deceased brothers."

The report was unanimously agreed to, the members rising as the question was taken, as a mark of respect to their deceased fellow-members, and, on motion, the report was directed to be spread on the minutes of this day's proceedings.

On motion of Mr. Harmar, it was

Resolved, That at the triennial meetings of the Society, including the present meeting, the expenses of the officers be defrayed out of the funds of the General Society; provided that the expenses of any such officers be not paid if he or they be delegates from the State Societies.

On motion of Mr. Harris, it was

Resolved, That the election for general officers be held immediately after assembling to-morrow.

On motion of General Tilghman,

Resolved, That when we adjourn it be to meet again to-morrow at ten o'clock, A.M.

Mr. Cobb, on the part of the members of the State Society of Massachusetts, invited the General Society to meet them at dinner this afternoon at six o'clock, which invitation was, on motion of Mr. Harris, cordially accepted.

The assistant-secretary then read in accordance with the resolution proposed by Rev. Mr. Willett:

"The following principles shall be immutable and form the basis of the Society of the Cincinnati :

"An incessant attention to preserve inviolate those exalted rights and liberties of human nature for which they have fought and bled, and without which the high rank of a rational being is a curse instead of a blessing.

"An unalterable determination to promote and cherish between the respective States that union and national honor so essentially necessary to their happiness and the future dignity of the American empire.

"To render permanent the cordial affection subsisting among the officers. This spirit will dictate brotherly kindness in all things, and particularly extend to the most substantial acts of beneficence, according to the ability of the Society, toward those officers and their families who, unfortunately, may be under the necessity of receiving it."

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

May 30th.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman at ten o'clock. Officers and delegates present as yesterday.

The rough minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and confirmed.

The election for officers being now in order, on motion of Judge Elmer, that for president-general was held *viva voce*.

The Hon. Hamilton Fish being proposed, was unanimously re-elected by acclamation.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the meeting proceeded to vote by ballot for vice-president general.

The chairman named the Rev. Mr. Willett, of New York, and Mr. Clifford S. Sims, of New Jersey, tellers of the election.

The tellers soon reported the Hon. James Simons, of South Carolina, to be elected vice-president-general.

On motion of Judge Elmer, it was

Resolved, That the present secretary-general, Thomas McEuen, of Pennsylvania, and the present assistant secretary-general, George W. Harris, of Maryland, be re-elected *viva voce*.

Which resolution was agreed to, and the last-named members were so elected.

The election for treasurer-general and assistant treasurer-general was then held by ballot.

The same tellers made their report. It resulted that General Tench Tilghman, of Maryland, was elected treasurer-general, and Mr. William B. Dayton, of New Jersey, was elected assistant treasurer-general.

General Simons and General Tilghman made short addresses, thanking the meeting for the distinction conferred on them.

Mr. Dayton then stated that the son of Colonel Scott, the late treasurer-general, was present, and desired to make a statement of the settlement of the account of that officer with the General Society.

On motion of Mr. Sims, Mr. Scott was invited to read the statement alluded to, and proceeded to do so at length, and presented the following account:

The Treasurer-General in Account with the General Society of the Cincinnati.

1869.	DR.
May 1. To balance in hands of assistant treasurer-general as per last report, and now in possession of his executor,	*\$125 70
May 19. To cash received from New York Society, assessment 1866,	40 00
May 19. To cash received from New York Society, assessment 1869,	40 00
May 19. To cash received from Pennsylvania Society, assessment 1869,	40 00
May 19. To cash received from South Carolina Society, assessment 1869,	40 00
May 19. To cash received from Massachusetts Society, assessment 1869,	40 00
July 1. To six months' interest on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	*117 00
Premium on the coin, 37½ per cent.,	*43 59
(This interest collected and retained by executor of assistant treasurer-general.)	
July 1. To cash received dues Maryland Society for 1863, 1866 and 1869,	\$80 00
Less cash paid by them for advertising,	6 63
Check of W. Carroll Hall, treasurer, for balance,	73 37

1870.

Jan. 1.	To six months' interest on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	\$117 00
	Premium on the coin, 19½ per cent.,	*22 81
	(This interest collected and retained by executor of the assistant treasurer-general.)	
June 16.	To United States 5-20 bonds received from the executor of John McDowell, Jr., late assistant treasurer-general,	3,900 00
July 9.	To six months' interest on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	117 00
	Premium on the coin, 12½ per cent.,	14 18

1871.

Jan. 13.	To six months' interest on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	117 00
	Premium on the coin, 10½ per cent.,	12 72
July 13.	To six months' interest on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	117 00
	Premium on the coin, 12½ per cent.,	14 62

1872.

M'ch 13.	To six months' interest, due January 1, on \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds,	117 00
	Premium on the coin,	11 70
	To accrued interest on deposit in Savings Bank, .	30 78
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1872.

May 29.	To balance,	\$4,528 70
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Cr.

1869.

May 20.	By paid bill Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore,	\$149 00
May 25.	By paid bill advertising,	2 00
July 16	By paid bill printing to the secretary-general,	42 67

1870.

Jan. 1.	By balance this day in hands of the executor of J. McDowell, Jr., late assistant treasurer-general,	*426 10
June 16.	By express charges from Philadelphia on package containing \$3,900 United States 5-20 bonds	3 00

1872.

May 29.	By balance of account in possession of executor of Joseph W. Scott, late treasurer-general of the Society,	4,528 70
<hr/>		

\$5,151 47

* P. S.—It also appears that there is due from the estate of the late assistant treasurer-general a balance of \$426.10.

United States 5- $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 bonds, par value, .	\$3,900 00
Cash,	628 70
	$\$4,528\ 70$

Subject to the order of the president-general.

The denominations, marks and numbers of these bonds are as follows:

\$1,000, F, March, 1865, No. 166,668	
1,000, D, " " "	107,783
1,000, C, " " "	144,610
100, A, " " "	57,383
100, A, " " "	22,483
100, A, " " "	135,348
100, A, " " "	52,949
100, A, " " "	1,085
50, B, " " "	36,373
50, A, " " "	7,292
100, C, " " "	146,516
100, C, " " "	130,536
100, C, " " "	130,448
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-top: 10px;"/>	
	$\$3,900$

CHARLES S. SCOTT,
Executor of Joseph W. Scott, deceased.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., May 29th, 1872.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Homans, Messrs. Popham and Dale.

Judge Elmer informed the meeting that the deaths of several members of the family of the late assistant treasurer-general, since the decease of that officer, were the cause of embarrassment in the settlement of the estate which was not yet completed.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That the treasurer-general be and he is hereby authorized to make a settlement of the outstanding account of the Society with the estate of the late assistant-treasurer, John McDowell, Jr., in such manner as he shall deem proper and expedient under the circumstances.

On motion of Judge Elmer, it was

Resolved, That the treasurer-general be directed to have the United States bonds belonging to the Society registered in the name of the treasurer-general and assistant treasurer-general, as trustees of this Society, with authority to either of them to receive the interest on the same.

On motion of General Tilghman, it was

Resolved, That the president-general and the presidents of the several State Societies be appointed a committee to confer with the national committee of arrangements for the Centennial celebration at Philadelphia in reference to the participation of all the Cincinnati Societies in that celebration.

On motion of Mr. Harris,

Resolved, That the Society return their sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Massachusetts Society for their very kind and cordial reception of the officers and delegates from the different States, for the very elegant entertainment provided, and for the friendly feelings manifested by them during the sessions of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Cobb,

Resolved, That there be a recess for thirty minutes.

On reassembling, Dr. Homans presented the following report of the committee to audit the accounts of the late treasurer-general, as follows:

The committee appointed to audit the account presented by Mr. C. S. Scott, executor of the estate of the late Colonel J. W. Scott, treasurer-general, report that they have found the accounts correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES D. HOMANS,
WILLIAM S. POPHAM,
RICHARD DALE,
Auditing Committee.

On motion of General Tilghman, the canon on the number of votes of delegates and officers, adopted by the meeting at Baltimore, in 1854, was read for information of the present meeting.

Mr. Dayton from the committee of inquiry by Admiral Thatcher, respecting the reorganization of the State Societies that have disbanded and divided their funds, read the following report, which was agreed to, and ordered to be entered on the minutes :

"To the General Society of the Cincinnati :

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution offered on Wednesday, May 29th, by Admiral Thatcher, at the request of parties in the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut, looking to and soliciting permission to resuscitate the Societies of the Cincinnati in those respective States, and, after such reorganization, to be admitted to full representation in the General Society, respectfully report that they have given the subject mature and careful discussion and deliberation, and, as the result thereof, respectfully submit for your consideration and action the following :

"While we are fully convinced of the supreme authority of the General Society in such matters, and cannot and do not admit the *right* of any State Society, which has once had an existence, and has since disbanded,

and distributed the fund which was the main basis of their original organization, to resume its original status, yet we feel, and so report, after a review of the question presented, that it may be expedient and proper for the General Society to receive and consider any such application which may be made, provided that the same is made to the Society after a temporary organization has been effected by those applying; satisfactory evidence has been presented that the amount of the fund existing at the time of the disbandment of the Society has been fully made up (with simple interest from the date of such disbandment), a list being furnished of the descendants of original members now residing in the States who desire to revive the organization; and a full statement of the facts which induced such disbandment, and the disposition made of such funds by the members having the control of them at that time.

"HENRY K. THATCHER,
"Chairman of Committee."

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That the rules and ordinances of the Society, together with a list of the existing officers and members of the several State Societies, and their address, be compiled by the secretary-general, with the concurrence of the president-general, and published in pamphlet form for the use of the Society, the expense thereof to be paid from the funds in the hands of the treasurer-general.

At the request of Mr. Cobb, of Massachusetts, the proceedings of State Societies respecting the extension of the right of admission of members by the State Societies, in accordance with the canon adopted in May, 1854, by the General Society, were discussed.

The representatives of the several State Societies on being called on, informed the meeting of the practice of their respective Societies.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Willett, it was

Resolved, That the next triennial meeting be held in New York on the second Wednesday in May, 1875.

On motion,

Resolved, That an assessment of twenty dollars be made on each State Society to defray the expenses of this meeting.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the rough minutes were read, agreed to, and, on motion of Dr. Lothrop, the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

THOMAS McEUEEN,
Secretary-General.

1875

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

NINETY-NINTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

NEW YORK, MAY 12TH, 1875.

The General Society convened in stated triennial meeting at Delmonico's, in the city of New York, on Wednesday, May 12th, 1875, in accordance with the resolution of the last triennial meeting in Boston; the usual notice having been sent to the delegates from the different State societies, there being present:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, president-general; Hon. James Simons, vice-president-general; George W. Harris, assistant secretary-general; Wm. B. Dayton, assistant-treasurer-general; Rev. Dr. Hutton, chaplain of the Society; and the following delegates:

Massachusetts:

Admiral Henry K. Thatcher,
Hon. Samuel C. Cobb,
Mr. William Perkins,
Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

New York:

Mr. Wm. S. Popham,
Rev. Marinus Willett,
Mr. Alex. Hamilton, Jr.,
Mr. John W. Greaton.

New Jersey:

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Hon. John T. Nixon,
Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D.D.,
Col. Alex. M. Cumming,
Col. Clifford Stanley Sims.

Pennsylvania:

Wm. A. Irvine, M.D.,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Peleg Hall,
Mr. William Wayne,
Mr. Grant Weidman.

Maryland:

Major W. Carvill Hall,
Major Richard I. Manning,
Mr. Richard M. McSherry.

South Carolina:

Mr. T. Pinckney Lowndes,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.,
Mr. Thomas R. Egleston.

The president-general, the Hon. Hamilton Fish, in the chair.

At the appointed hour the president-general called the meeting to order.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hutton.

The credentials of delegates were handed in.

The assistant secretary-general read the list of delegates appointed by the different State Societies, as follows :

Massachusetts :

Admiral Henry K. Thatcher,
Hon. Samuel C. Cobb,
Mr. William Perkins,
C. D. Homans, M.D.,
Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

Pennsylvania :

Wm. A. Irvine, M.D.,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Peleg Hall,
Mr. William Wayne,
Mr. Grant Weidman.

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Mr. Wm. S. Popham,
Rev. Marinus Willett,
Mr. Alex. Hamilton, Jr.,
Mr. John W. Greaton.

Maryland :

Major W. Carvill Hall,
Major Richard I. Manning.
Mr. Richard M. McSherry.

New Jersey :

Hon. I. Q. C. Elmer,
Hon. John T. Nixon,
Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D.D.,
Col. Alex. M. Cumming,
Col. Clifford Stanley Sims.

South Carolina :

Hon. James Simons,
Mr. Louis D. DeSaussure,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.,
Mr. T. Pinckney Lowndes,
Mr. Thomas R. Egleston.

The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted, and, on motion of Judge Elmer, the word "unanimous" was ordered to be introduced into the record of the minutes of the election of secretary-general and assistant secretary-general, at the last meeting of the Society.

The president-general thanked the Society for the resolution complimentary to him passed at the last meeting.

The assistant secretary-general read the principles embodied in the Institution of the Society, as follows :

"The following principles shall be immutable and form the basis of the Society of the Cincinnati :

"An incessant attention to preserve inviolate those exalted rights and liberties of human nature for which they have fought and bled, and without which the high rank of a rational being is a curse instead of a blessing.

"An unalterable determination to promote and cherish between the respective States that union and national honor so essentially necessary to their happiness, and the future dignity of the American empire.

"To render permanent the cordial affection subsisting among the officers. This spirit will dictate brotherly kindness in all things, and particularly extend to the most substantial acts of beneficence, according to the ability of the Society, toward those officers and their families, who unfortunately may be under the necessity of receiving it."

The assistant secretary-general reported that no action had been taken in reference to the following resolution passed at the last meeting of the Society, viz.:

"Resolved, That the rules and ordinances of the Society, together with a list of the existing officers and members of the several State Societies, and their address, be compiled by the secretary-general, with the concurrence of the president-general, and published in pamphlet form for the use of the Society, the expense thereof to be paid from the funds in the hands of the treasurer-general."

Rev. Dr. Lothrop moved that the subject of the publication of the rules and ordinances of the Society, the address of the members of the different State Societies, etc., be referred to a committee to be appointed by the president-general, with power to prepare and publish such a statement as they may deem advisable, and to report at the next meeting of the Society.

Mr. Cobb moved to amend, by the appointment of one member from each State Society to constitute the committee. The resolution as amended was adopted.

The president-general appointed the following gentlemen on said committee:

Rev. Dr. Lothrop, of Massachusetts; Mr. T. Pinckney Lowndes, of South Carolina; Mr. James L. McLane, of Maryland; Mr. George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania; Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Jr., of New York; Hon. John T. Nixon, of New Jersey.

The reports from treasurers of the different State Societies, under a resolution adopted at the last meeting, calling for information as to the amount of funds, number of beneficiaries, etc., were called for, and the following statements made:

New York Society.—Amount invested and bearing interest for the year 1874–5, \$20,500; this being the par value, the market value being considerably in excess of this amount. Number of beneficiaries, 5. Average amount paid to each per annum, \$100.

Massachusetts Society.—Amount of fund at the present market value, \$63,000. Number of beneficiaries, 25, who have received for the past year about \$3,000.

Pennsylvania Society.—Amount of fund, \$35,650. Number of beneficiaries, 19. Amount of annual distribution, about \$1,600.

New Jersey Society.—Amount of fund, \$14,500. Average number of beneficiaries, 16. Amount of annual distribution, about \$400.

Maryland Society.—Amount of fund, about \$8,000. Number of beneficiaries, 6.

South Carolina Society.—Amount of fund, about \$5,500. Number of beneficiaries, uncertain.

The president-general announced that Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Jr., a member of the New York State Society, invited the officers and delegates to a dinner at the Union Club, this evening; that the New York Society invited them to a dinner at Delmonico's to-morrow evening; also, that lunch would be served every day during the sessions of the Society; and that a drive to the Park, etc., was offered for to-morrow.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Lothrop, it was

Resolved, That the invitation extended by Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Jr., to the officers and delegates to dine this evening at the Union Club, be cordially accepted, and that the thanks of the Society be extended to Mr. Hamilton for his very kind invitation.

The assistant secretary-general announced the death of Dr. Thomas McEuen, secretary-general of this Society, and president of the Pennsylvania State Society; and read a short sketch of his life—and on his motion the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, By the officers and members of the Society of the Cincinnati, that they have heard with much regret of the decease on the 27th of February, 1873, of Dr. Thomas McEuen, late secretary-general of the Society, and that they desire to express their great respect for the character of their deceased fellow-member, as an accomplished scholar, a worthy gentleman, and a useful member of society; and to record their appreciation of his faithful and valuable services as an officer of the Society during a period of many years, and of the interest that he always evinced in its welfare and prosperity.

Resolved, That the secretary-general be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

Major Hall announced the death of General Tench Tilghman, treasurer-general of the Society, and president of the Maryland State Society.

On motion, the president appointed the following gentlemen a committee to express the sentiments of the Society on the death of General Tilghman, viz.: Hon. James Simons, Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, and Hon. Samuel C. Cobb.

The president-general expressed his high appreciation of the character and services of the deceased members, who had been his old and valued friends and associates.

The assistant secretary-general read a list of the papers, books, etc., in the archives of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Popham, the Society took a recess of half an hour.

Upon reassembling, the assistant treasurer-general, Mr. Dayton, made a statement, giving all the information in his possession respecting the condition of the funds of the Society. He also informed the meeting that he had requested the executor of the late treasurer-general to be present at this meeting and make a report, to which he had not responded.

Mr. Dayton then presented and read the following statement of his account with the Society:

Wm B. DAYTON, Assistant Treasurer-General, in Account with the General Society of the Cincinnati.

1872.	DR.
May 30. To assessment, Massachusetts Society, 1872,	\$20 00
" New York " "	20 00
" Pennsylvania " "	20 00
" S. Carolina " "	20 00
July 4. " New Jersey " "	20 00
" " " 1866 & 1869,	40 00
 1873.	
July 11. Cash collected from executors of John McDowell, Jr., late assistant treasurer-general,	455 92
 1875.	
Feb. 25. U. S. 5-20 registered bonds received from executors of estate of General Tench Tilghman, par value,	3,900 00
May 12. Interest at 6 per ct. on amount collected from estate of John McDowell, Jr., to this date,	50 30
	<u><u>\$4,546 22</u></u>

1872.	CR.
May 30. By cash to treasurer-general,	\$5 00
June 8. By publication list of officers, in New Jersey papers,	2 75
Sept. Bill of secretary-general,	52 56
Nov. 14. Bill of C. S. Scott, executor of Colonel Jos. W. Scott,	21 90
Express and postage,	3 25
U. S. 5-20 registered bonds in possession of assistant treasurer-general, par value,	3,900 00
Cash in hands of asst. treasurer-general to this date,	560 66
	<u><u>\$4,546 22</u></u>

On motion of Judge Elmer the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the account of the assistant treasurer-general be referred to a committee of two members, to be appointed by the chair, to be examined and reported upon, and that the committee have power to deduct the item of "Interest" from the account.

The president appointed Messrs. Elmer and Cobb the committee under this resolution.

The assistant secretary-general presented a bill amounting to \$24.30, disbursed for a new trunk for the books and papers of the Society, printing notices, etc., which was, on motion of Mr. Greaton, referred to the treasurer-general, with power to settle the same.

On motion of Judge Elmer, it was

Resolved, That the treasurer-general be requested to prepare such an account of the claim of the Society against the late treasurer-general, as

may be required by the laws of the State of Maryland, and to present the same to his representatives ; and that he be authorized to employ counsel if he deems it necessary ; and to make such settlement of the claim as he may deem expedient under the circumstances.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That when the meeting adjourn it be to meet at this place, to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

The committee to whom was referred the account of the assistant treasurer-general, reported that they had examined and found it correct, and that they had deducted the item of interest, leaving a balance in his hands of \$510.36 ; which report was, on motion, adopted.

Mr. Greaton offered a resolution in relation to the proper care of the funds of the Society, and moved that it be referred to the same committee to whom was referred the account of the assistant treasurer-general—to report to the Society ; which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That the first business in order to-morrow, after the reading of the minutes, shall be the election of officers.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Lothrop, the meeting adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

Thursday, May 13th.

The Society met at the same place, and at the appointed hour the president-general called the meeting to order.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read, and on motion they were approved.

The president-general announced the customary mode of conducting the election.

Judge Elmer asked and obtained unanimous consent to move to suspend the rule, which motion was considered and agreed to ; he then moved that the election for president-general be held *viva voce*, which was unanimously ordered—and thereupon, on motion of Judge Elmer, the Hon. Hamilton Fish was unanimously elected to that office.

Judge Elmer asked and obtained the like consent, and the rule was again suspended, when, on his motion, the following officers were elected in the same manner :

Hon. James Simons, vice-president-general.

Geo. W. Harris, secretary-general.

Wm. B. Dayton, assistant treasurer-general.

Rev. Mancius Hutton, D.D., chaplain.

The president-general appointed Colonel Sims and Mr. McSherry tellers to conduct the election for treasurer-general and assistant secretary-general.

Mr. Greaton moved to dispense with the rule as before, in order to elect Mr. Wm. Perkins to the office of treasurer-general, which was adopted.

Mr. Perkins arose and declined the proposed honor.

Mr. Greaton then withdrew his motion, and the Society proceeded to ballot.

The Rev. Dr. Lothrop, nominated Mr. Alex. Hamilton, Jr., of New York, for the office of treasurer-general.

The tellers reported that Mr. Alex. Hamilton, Jr., had been elected treasurer-general, and Major Richard I. Manning, of Maryland, assistant secretary-general.

Mr. Alex. Hamilton, Jr., handed to the Society a box containing twelve forks, which had formerly been part of the camp equipage of General Washington, they having been for many years in possession of the family of the late Major General Morgan Lewis, and had been recently brought to light by the removal of the family (said forks being the property of this Society), and they were deposited with the secretary-general to be placed with the archives of the Society.

The secretary-general presented and read the following resolution of the Pennsylvania State Society, passed at its annual meeting, July 4th, 1874 :

Resolved, That this Society has heard with much satisfaction of the determination of the General Society of the Cincinnati to meet in Philadelphia in 1876, and that the president be requested to inform the General Society that the Pennsylvania Society will have much pleasure in welcoming its members on that occasion.

Judge Elmer, on behalf of the committee of presidents of the different State Societies, appointed at the last meeting of the Society with reference to a meeting at Philadelphia in 1876, on the occasion of the Centennial Celebration, asked that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, which was, on motion, granted.

The secretary-general moved that the next triennial meeting of the Society be held at Philadelphia on the fourth Wednesday in May, 1878, which was agreed to.

Mr. James Simons, Jr., stated that the South Carolina Society had hoped that the next meeting would be held at Charleston, but that they did not wish to conflict with the proposition to meet at Philadelphia.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Mr. Greaton with reference to the funds of the Society, offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :

Resolved, That the treasurer-general be directed to deposit the current receipts of money from our funds in such bank as he may select, with the concurrence of the president-general, to the credit of the General Society of the Cincinnati, subject to the draft of the treasurer-general for the time being, or, in case of his death, of the assistant treasurer.

Mr. Cobb, from the committee to whom was referred the duty of preparing resolutions with regard to the decease of the late treasurer-general, made the following report, and the resolution was, on motion, unanimously adopted :

"The committee to whom was referred the announcement by the Maryland delegation, of the decease of Gen. Tench Tilghman, late treasurer-general of this body, and president of the Maryland Society, ask leave to report :

"That General Tench Tilghman departed this life on the 22d of December, 1874, in the city of Baltimore, after a very sudden and brief illness. General Tilghman was born in Talbot county, Maryland, on the 25th day of March, 1810. He received a warrant as a cadet, was entered at West Point, and graduated at that institution in 1832. He obtained his commission in the army of the United States, and after remaining two years in the army resigned, and betook himself to agricultural pursuits and the retirement of private life. Born of an ancient and distinguished family, he was naturally imbued with the spirit of patriotism. He cultivated a deep reverence for the memory of the illustrious founders of the order of Cincinnati, and zealously interested himself in all those things that tended to promote the objects of the organization.

"Of manly presence and genial manners, he attracted the consideration and regard of all who from time to time were delegated to sit in this assembly. Emotions of sincere sorrow and regret will ever be excited by the recollections of the sad event which has severed associations of cordial friendship and regard.

"Be it, therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the General Society of the Cincinnati have heard with deep sorrow and regret, of the death of General Tench Tilghman, late treasurer-general of this body, and president of the Maryland State Society of the Cincinnati."

On motion of Mr. Greaton, it was

Resolved, That the secretary-general be directed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of twenty dollars be made upon each State Society to defray the expenses of this meeting.

Rev. Dr. Lothrop moved that the thanks of the Society be extended to the New York State Society for the very cordial manner in which they have received the delegates from the different State Societies, and for the very liberal and generous hospitality they have afforded. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The president-general announced the presentation by the Massachusetts Society to the General Society, of the "Memorial Volume" of the Massachusetts Society, published in 1873, which was gratefully accepted.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the U. S. Bonds belonging to the Society, and any other securities which may hereafter be acquired, be invested in the joint names of the treasurer-general and assistant treasurer-general, as trustees, with the right of survivorship, and that in case of any change in either of these officers, from death or other cause, that the said bonds and securities be transferred (from time to time) to the actual officers above named—and immediately upon the appointment of a new trustee, all investments of the Societies' securities shall be transferred to the joint names of the then existing trustees, as joint tenants.

Mr. Cobb moved that the meeting now adjourn.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hutton, and the president-general then declared the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

GEORGE W. HARRIS,
Secretary-general.

1878

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 22D, 1878.

The General Society convened in stated triennial meeting at the Aldine Hotel, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, May 22d, 1878, in accordance with the resolution of the last triennial meeting, in New York; the usual notice having been sent to the different State Societies, there being present:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, president-general; Hon. James Simons, vice-president-general; Geo. W. Harris, secretary-general; Alexander Hamilton, treasurer-general; William B. Dayton, assistant treasurer-general, and the delegates hereinafter named.

The president-general, Hon. Hamilton Fish, in the chair.

At the appointed hour the president-general called the meeting to order.

The secretary-general read the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the society, naming this date and place for the present meeting.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Beatty.

On motion of General Cochrane, the following committee was appointed by the chair to examine the credentials of delegates, viz.: Mr. Cobb, of Massachusetts; Mr. Ogden, of New Jersey, and Mr. James Simons, Jr., of South Carolina.

The president-general read an invitation from the Historical Society to visit their hall. Also, an invitation to visit the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

Judge Nixon moved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to these two societies, and that they be informed that the Society will not be able to accept the invitations.

Dr. Lothrop moved to amend by accepting the invitation of the Historical Society, and that the officers and delegates visit the hall of that society this evening. The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

The secretary-general announced the arrangements made for the entertainment of the officers and delegates by the Pennsylvania Society, which comprise a drive to Fairmount Park this afternoon, and a dinner tomorrow evening. Also, that lunch would be served every day during the sessions of the Society.

The secretary-general read the following application:

"ALDINE HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, 22d May, 1878.

"To GEORGE W. HARRIS, *Secretary-General of the Cincinnati: Present.*

"SIR: The delegates appointed by the 'Society of Cincinnati, in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,' beg leave to present their credentials as representatives of said Society, and respectfully request action thereon.

"We have the honor to be, sir,

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servants,

"NATHAN'L GREENE,
"DAVID KING,
"ASA BIRD GARDNER,
"JAMES M. VARNUM,
"DANIEL WANTON LYMAN."

On motion of General Cochrane, the following resolution was adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the chair to consider the subject of the reorganization of State Societies that have been dissolved; to inquire into the circumstances attending the dissolution of any Society; the distribution of the funds; and that the papers and credentials, in regard to any such application, be referred to the said committee.

The chair appointed General Cochrane, Rev. Dr. Lothrop, Judge Nixon, Dr. William A. Irvine, and Mr. James Simons, Jr., the committee under the resolution.

The committee appointed to report on the credentials of delegates made the following report:

The committee appointed to receive and examine the credentials of the delegates present beg leave to submit the following report:

Whole number of delegates present, twenty-two, as follows:

New York :

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Hon. John Cochrane,
Mr. Alexander Hamilton,
Mr. John Schuyler,
Rev. Marinus Willett.

Pennsylvania :

Dr. William A. Irvine,
Mr. William Wayne,
Mr. James L. Harmar,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Grant Weidman.

Massachusetts :

Admiral H. K. Thatcher,
Mr. William Perkins,
Hon. Samuel C. Cobb,
Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

New Jersey :

Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer,
Hon. John T. Nixon,
Rev. C. C. Beatty, D.D.,
Col. Clifford Stanley Sims,
Mr. Francis Barber Ogden.

South Carolina :

Hon. James Simons,
Mr. James Simons, Jr.
Mr. Thos. Pinckney Lowndes.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Society were read, and, on motion, approved.

The principles embodied in the Institution of the Society, were read by the secretary-general.

Mr. Harmar informed the meeting, that a committee from the "Valley Forge Centennial Celebration" desired to invite the Society to a celebration on the 19th of June next, and moved that they be admitted to appear before the Society, which motion was adopted.

The committee appeared, and presented the invitation, and offered to the Society "a topographic view of Valley Forge."

The president-general replied that he would have great pleasure in laying the invitation before the Society for its action, and communicating their reply.

On the retiring of the committee, the president-general laid before the Society the communication from the Valley Forge association.

Mr. Cobb moved that the invitation be accepted, and that a delegation of one member from each State Society be appointed by the chair to represent the Society on that occasion, in conjunction with the officers, and that as many other members as may find it convenient shall attend; that the delegation shall have power to fill vacancies, and that a proper response be made to the committee.

The resolution was adopted, and the chair appointed the following gentlemen to form the delegation, viz: Mr. Cobb, of Massachusetts; Mr. Ogden, of New Jersey; Mr. Schuyler, of New York; Mr. Harmar, of Pennsylvania; Mr. James Simons, Jr., of South Carolina.

The treasurer-general presented his report, as follows:

"NEW YORK, May 20th, 1878.

"To the General Society of the Cincinnati:

"The treasurer-general respectfully submits herewith, his account from June, 1875, to May 20th, 1878,—showing a balance of cash on hand of \$220.45. Out of the income of the fund—with the assent of the president-general—he bought on June 7th, 1877, one U. S. bond for \$1,000, at 4½ per cent. interest; so that the fund, with \$3,900 in U. S. bonds, received by him, now amounts to \$4,900 in U. S. bonds at par.

"With the concurrence of the president-general, the Bank of New York, in the city of New York, was selected as the depository of the current receipts of the Society, and a safe in the vaults of that bank was made the place of deposit of the securities of the Society.

"On 10th of November, 1875, he received from Mr. Wm. B. Dayton, assistant treasurer-general, the U. S. bonds for \$3,900, the principal of the fund, and a balance in cash of \$489.87, as shown in the account. The account of Mr. Dayton, with the vouchers submitted at that time to the treasurer-general, is herewith presented.

"In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last triennial meeting, the treasurer-general had a correspondence extending over several months with the executor of the late treasurer general, and as it appeared very unlikely that the estate of late treasurer-general could pay the claim, or any part of it, he prepared an account of the claim of the Society and forwarded it on the _____ 1875, to the assistant secretary-general in Maryland, with the request that he would have it duly filed in the proper office under the laws of Maryland.

"The treasurer-general is of the opinion that the claim cannot be collected.

"The U. S. 5-20 bonds for \$3,900, though not included in the call of the secretary of the treasury, dated May 6th, 1878, will probably soon be called in and paid; when other bonds at a lower rate of interest must be taken, and the Society's income to some extent diminished.

"Respectfully submitted,

"ALEX. HAMILTON,
"Treasurer-General."

The General Society of the Cincinnati in account with their Treasurer-General.

1875.

DR.

Nov. 10. Received from Wm. B. Dayton, assistant treasurer-general, balance of cash in his hands,	\$489 87
Nov. 19. Interest U. S. bonds, (gold) \$117 and premium, . .	134 40

1876.

Jan. 6.	Interest U. S. bonds, (gold) \$117 and premium,	\$ 131 51
Jan. 7.	Received assessment from Maryland Society,	20 00
June 29.	Interest U. S. bonds and premium,	131 18

1877.

April 24.	Interest U. S. bonds and premium,	125 48
Nov. 15.	Interest U. S. bonds and premium,	123 29

1878.

April 29.	Interest U. S. bonds and premium,	117 44
May 17.	Interest for 9 months on \$1,000 bond and premium, .	34 00

\$1,307 17

1875.

Cr.

June 5.	Paid bill Boston Post, advertising,	\$ 3 60
" 9.	Paid bill Baltimore American, advertising,	8 75
" 10.	Paid bill Baltimore Gazette, advertising,	6 30

1877.

June 7.	Paid Morton, Bliss & Co., for \$1,000 U. S. registered bond, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest,	1,068 07
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1878.

May 20.	Balance cash on hand,	220 45
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\$1,307 17

PRINCIPAL.

U. S. 5-20 bonds received from Mr. Dayton,	\$3,900 00
\$1,000 U. S. $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. registered bond, bought June 7, 1877, cost	1,068 07

\$4,968 07

E. & O. E.,
 ALEX. HAMILTON,
Treasurer-General.

On motion of Mr. Perkins, it was

Resolved, That the report, together with that of the acting treasurer-general, previous to the appointment of the present treasurer-general, be referred to a committee of two, to be named by the chair, to examine and report.

The chair appointed on the committee, Mr. William Perkins, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Grant Weidman, of Pennsylvania.

The committee subsequently reported that they had examined the accounts and found them to be correct.

Rev. Dr. Lothrop, chairman of the committee appointed at the meeting in 1875, to "prepare and publish the rules and ordinances of the

Society, address of members," etc., stated that he hoped to be able to make a report on the subject to-morrow, and asked leave to do so, which was accorded.

Mr. Hamilton offered the following resolution, and moved that it be referred to the committee on rules and ordinances, which was agreed to, *viz.* :—

Resolved, That at each triennial meeting, the treasurers of the different State Societies report, in writing, the amount of funds, the number of beneficiaries, and the average amount given to each.

On motion of Judge Elmer, the meeting adjourned to meet at eleven o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 23d.

At the appointed hour the president-general called the meeting to order.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read by the secretary-general, and, on motion, they were approved.

The president-general offered an invitation on the part of Mr. George W. Childs to visit the "Ledger" building.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, the invitation was accepted, with the thanks of the Society.

The secretary-general presented a roll of the ribbon of the Society, which was bequeathed to it by Miss Ann Willing Jackson, daughter of Major Wm. Jackson, of the Revolution.

On motion of Judge Elmer, it was accepted, with the thanks of the Society.

Also, a book from the "Bunker Hill Monument Association," containing a record of the centennial celebration.

The secretary-general was directed to return the thanks of the Society to the donors.

Mr. Harmar moved that the Society proceed to an election for officers to serve for the ensuing three years—which was agreed to.

Judge Elmer asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot be suspended, and that the election be held *viva voce*. The rule being suspended by unanimous consent, he then moved that the present officers of the Society be elected, which motion, being seconded, was unanimously adopted. They are as follows:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, of New York, president-general.

Hon. James Simons, of South Carolina, vice-president-general.

George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general.

Richard I. Manning, of Maryland, assistant secretary-general.

Alexander Hamilton, of New York, treasurer-general.

William B. Dayton, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

The president-general and the vice-president-general returned their thanks to the Society.

The Rev. Dr. Beatty moved that a committee of one member from each State Society be appointed by the chair, to make preparations for the first centennial of the Society in 1883, and to report at the next triennial meeting—and that the president-general be added to the committee as chairman. The resolution was adopted, and the chair appointed the following gentlemen to constitute the committee: Admiral Thatcher, of Massachusetts; Mr. Schuyler, of New York; Mr. Ogden, of New Jersey; Mr. Harmar, of Pennsylvania; and Mr. Lowndes, of South Carolina.

On motion of Dr. Lothrop, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of twenty dollars be made upon each State Society, to defray the expenses of this meeting.

Mr. James Simons, Jr., stated that the South Carolina Society would be glad to have the Society hold the next triennial meeting at Charleston.

Admiral Thatcher moved that the invitation be accepted, and that the next meeting be held in Charleston, South Carolina, on the second Wednesday in April, 1881.

Judge Elmer moved that the rule requiring the meeting to be held in the month of May be suspended, which was agreed to, and the motion of Admiral Thatcher was adopted.

Rev. Dr. Lothrop, from the committee on the rules and ordinances of the Society, presented a report, which, on motion of Mr. Harmar, was referred back to the committee.

Mr. Harmar presented a series of resolutions on the subject of the admission and transfer of members, which, on motion of Judge Elmer, were referred to the committee on rules and ordinances.

General Cochrane, chairman of the committee appointed yesterday on the subject of the claims of Societies that had been dissolved, presented a report, and, by leave, submitted also the dissenting views of a minority of the committee, which, on motion of Mr. Hamilton, were accepted for consideration.

Judge Nixon moved the adoption of the majority report.

General Cochrane moved to amend by adopting the minority report.

On motion of Judge Elmer, a recess was taken until half-past two o'clock.

Upon reassembling, the consideration of the report was resumed, and, after discussion thereupon, Mr. Hamilton moved that the application of the Rhode Island Society be recommitted to the committee, to obtain fuller information, and to report at the next meeting of the Society.

At the request of a delegate present, the vote upon this resolution was taken as provided by the rule adopted in 1851, and it passed in the affirmative—ayes 14, nays 11; and thus the resolution was adopted, and the application recommitted.

Rev. Mr. Willett moved that the question concerning the admission into the New Jersey Society of Dr. T. Matlack Cheesman, with the papers relating thereto, be referred to the committee on rules and ordinances, which was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Beatty pronounced the benediction, and, on motion, the Society adjourned to meet on the second Wednesday in April, 1881.

GEORGE W. HARRIS,
Secretary-General.

1881

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, APRIL 13TH, 1881.

The General Society convened in stated triennial meeting, at the Charleston Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday, April 13th, 1881, at eleven o'clock, A. M., in accordance with the resolution of the last triennial meeting, held at Philadelphia, the usual notice having been sent to the different State Societies; there being present: Honorable Hamilton Fish, president-general; George W. Harris, secretary-general; Alexander Hamilton, treasurer-general; Richard I. Manning, assistant secretary-general, and the delegates hereinafter named.

Honorable Hamilton Fish, president-general, in the chair.

At the appointed hour the president-general called the meeting to order.

The secretary-general read the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Society, naming the date and place of the present meeting.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hornblower.

The secretary-general read the list of States, and called for the credentials of delegates, which were produced.

General Cochrane, chairman of the committee on the admission of the Rhode Island Society, asked permission for the committee to sit during the meeting of the Society, and that they might be considered as being present, which, on motion, was granted.

It was moved and seconded, that the credentials of delegates be referred to a committee of one member from each State Society, to examine and report upon, which was adopted.

The president-general appointed the following gentlemen on the committee:

General Francis W. Palfrey, Massachusetts; Mr. Alexander Hamilton, New York; Mr. Grant Weidman, Pennsylvania; Colonel Clifford Stanley Sims, New Jersey; Mr. Thomas Pinckney Lowndes, South Carolina; Mr. Richard I. Manning, Maryland.

The president-general laid before the meeting a communication from the Mayor of the city of Charleston, which is as follows:

"MAYOR'S OFFICE, CHARLESTON, S. C., March 11th, 1881.

"GENERAL W. G. DESAUSSEUR, President State Society of the Cincinnati:

"DEAR SIR:—It gives me great pleasure to place at your disposal the Council Chamber of the City Hill, for the use of the General Society of the Cincinnati, meeting in this city, at an early day. The Mayor's office, adjoining the Council Chamber, is also at your service as a committee room, should you have use for it.

"I am, Dear Sir,

"Very respectfully,

"WM. A. COURTENAY,

"Mayor."

Also an invitation from the Charleston Library Society to visit the rooms of the Society.

Also an invitation from the Charleston Chamber of Commerce to the use and privileges of the reading-rooms of the chamber.

Also an invitation from the committee on the unveiling of the statue to Admiral Farragut, at Washington, on the 25th inst.

The committee on the credentials of delegates reported that the following gentlemen had been appointed by the different State Societies:

Maryland :

- Hon. Robert M. McLane,
- Mr. William B. Webb,
- Mr. Otho H. Williams,
- Mr. Wm. H. DeCourcy,
- * Mr. Richard I. Manning.

South Carolina :

- * Gen. W. G. DeSaussure,
- * Rev. Dr. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney,
- * Mr. James Simons,
- Hon. Wade Hampton,
- * Mr. T. Pinckney Lowndes.

And as alternate for the Hon. W. Hampton, * Mr. Evan Edwards.

Massachusetts :

- * Hon. Samuel C. Cobb,
- * Gen. Francis W. Palfrey,
- Dr. Charles D. Homans,
- Mr. William Perkins,
- * Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

Pennsylvania :

- * Dr. Wm. A. Irvine,
- * Mr. Richard Dale,
- * Mr. Grant Weidman,
- * Mr. William Wayne,
- * Mr. Francis M. Caldwell.

New Jersey:

* Colonel Clifford Stanley Sims,
Hon. John T. Nixon, LL.D.,
* Dr. Herman Burgin.
* Hon. John Fitch,
* Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D.D.,
LL.D.,
And the * Rev. Wm. Henry
Hornblower, D.D., alternate.

New York:

* Hon. Hamilton Fish,
* Mr. Alexander Hamilton,
Mr. Wm. S. Popham,
Mr. John Schuyler,
* Gen. John Cochrane.

Of whom those present are maked thus (*).

The minutes of the last meeting of the Society were read, and, on motion, they were approved.

The principles embodied in the Institution of the Society were read.

Colonel Sims presented the credentials of delegates of the Rhode Island Society, and moved that a delegate be appointed in place of Judge Nixon, a member of the committee on the claims of that Society, who was absent. Mr. Fitch asked for a vote by States, which was accorded. The result was as follows:

Ayes :—New Jersey, 5 votes.

Nays :—Massachusetts, 5 votes; New York, 5 votes; Pennsylvania, 5 votes; Maryland, 5 votes; South Carolina, 5 votes; the president-general, 1 vote; the secretary-general, 1 vote; the treasurer-general, 1 vote; the assistant secretary-general, 1 vote.

There being 29 votes in the negative and 5 in the affirmative, the resolution was not adopted.

The treasurer-general presented and read his report and account for the last three years They are as follows:

“ NEW YORK, April 1st, 1881.

“ *To the General Society of the Cincinnati :*

“ The treasurer-general respectfully submits his account from May 20th, 1878, when the last account was audited, to March 31st, 1881; showing a balance of cash on hand of \$181.87.

“ As intimated in his last report, the 6 per cent. bonds of the United States, \$3,900 at par, were paid off in December, 1878, and the sum of \$3,900 deposited in the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, and interest at four per cent. is credited to the Society thereon. With the income thus received and that derived from the \$1,000 U. S. 4½ per cent. bond referred to in the last report, the treasurer-general has purchased \$4,100 U. S. bonds, bearing 4½ per cent. interest, at an aggregate cost of \$4,576.75. The fund at par now amounts to \$5,100 invested in U. S. 4½ per cent. bonds, costing in the aggregate \$5,644.82, and with a market value of about \$5,700.

"The principal of the fund when it came into the hands of the present treasurer-general was \$3,900.

"In accordance with the suggestions in the resolution adopted in May, 1875, the treasurer-general has invested the funds in bonds of the United States, but the low rate of interest which they bear, and the premium on those having some years to run, reduces the interest to about $3\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum.

"In view of these circumstances, the treasurer-general recommends the investment of the principal in bond and mortgage, on which, in the city of New York, and other large cities, the sum of \$5,700 could be securely placed at five, perhaps six per cent. per annum, whereby the premium on the bonds now held, amounting to about \$600, could be saved, and an annual income of at least \$275 secured.

"The treasurer-general announces with regret the death of the assistant treasurer-general, Mr. William Berrian Dayton, on the 30th March last, in the city of New York, after a painful illness. As the funds are held in the joint names of the treasurer and assistant treasurer-general, and the survivor, the appointment of a successor at this meeting is necessary to provide for contingencies; the title to the funds now depending on one life only.

"Respectfully submitted,

"A. HAMILTON,

"Treasurer-General."

The General Society of the Cincinnati, in account with their Treasurer-General.

1878.	DR.
May 20. By balance in hand from last account,	\$220 45
29. " assessments from State Societies, viz.: Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina, \$20 each,	100 00
Dec. 13. By interest on \$3,900 U. S. bonds, when they were paid off,	\$150 34
Premium on gold,	4 97
	<u>155 31</u>
Dec. 13. By principal of \$3,900, U. S. bonds paid off, 1881.	3,900 00
Mar. 13. By interest on \$3,900 from December 13th, 1878, to March 13th, 1881, 2 years and three months, @ 4 per cent. deposited in trust company,	351 00
By interest on \$1,000 U. S. $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bond for 3 years at \$45 per annum,	135 00
By premium on gold to 1879,	21
	<u>135 21</u>
	<u><u>\$4,861 97</u></u>

1878.	Cr.
May 29. Paid William B. Dayton, assistant treasurer-general, actual expenses attending triennial meeting, Philadelphia, (No. 1),	\$24 00
June 5. Paid New York Tribune advertising triennial, (No. 2),	6 80
June 20. Paid George W. Harris, secretary-general, expenses printing, advertising, etc., triennial meeting, (No. 3),	43 10
July 3. Paid C. C. Fulton, advertising in Baltimore American, (No. 4),	4 75
3. Paid Baltimore Gazette, advertising meeting, (No. 5),	4 50
25. " H. W. Dutton & Son, advertising, . . (No. 6),	2 00
Aug. 1. " New York Times, advertising triennial meeting, 1879. (No. 7),	6 00
June 4. Paid Boston Daily Advertiser, notice of the death of General Simons, (No. 8),	5 00
Nov. 21. Paid New York Times, advertising same notice, 1881. (No. 9),	7 20
Mar. 18. Paid Morton, Bliss & Co., purchase of \$4,000 U. S. 4½ per cent. bonds, (No. 10),	4,465 00
24. Paid Morton, Bliss & Co., purchase of additional \$100 U. S. 4½ per cent. bonds, . . . (No. 11),	111 75
31. Balance cash in bank,	181 87
	<u><u>\$4,861 97</u></u>

PRINCIPAL.

	Par.	Cost.	Market value.
U. S. 4½ per cent. bond, .	\$1,000	\$1,068 07	\$1,120 00
" " " bonds,	4,100	4,576 75	4,592 00
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	\$5,100	\$5,644 82	\$5,712 00
			181 87 Cash
			<u><u>\$5,893 87 Total</u></u>

E. & O. E.

A. HAMILTON,
Treasurer-General.

April 1st, 1881.

On motion,

The report and account were accepted, and ordered to be placed on the minutes.

On motion,

A committee of two was appointed by the chair to examine and audit the same. The committee consisted of Mr. Dale, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Edwards, of South Carolina.

Mr. Cobb presented the following report on the Valley Forge celebration, which was accepted.

"On behalf of the committee appointed to attend the Centennial celebration at Valley Forge, June 19th, 1878, the undersigned respectfully reports that it was found impossible for the several members to be present on the occasion referred to, and a communication to this effect was addressed to the committee of arrangements.

"S. C. COBB,
"Chairman."

The report of the committee on the Centennial of the Society was called for, and, the number not being full, on account of the decease of two of the members and the absence of two others, it was moved that the president-general appoint delegates to fill the vacancies caused by the decease of two of the members, which was adopted.

The chair appointed General Palfrey, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Weidman, of Pennsylvania.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, a recess until one o'clock was taken.

The Society reassembled at the hour named.

The committee appointed to examine the treasurer-general's account, reported that they had examined it and found it to be correct. The report was accepted.

Mr. Cobb moved that the gentlemen claiming seats as delegates from the Rhode Island Society be invited to be present at the sittings of this meeting, which was unanimously adopted.

The gentlemen from Rhode Island thereupon appeared, in accordance with the above resolution.

Mr. DeSaussure, president of the South Carolina Society, asked permission to present, for the use of the delegates present, several copies of a publication of that Society, containing the institution, rules, and by-laws, list of members, etc. On motion, it was resolved that the books be accepted with the thanks of the Society.

Mr. Fitch moved that the grateful acknowledgments of the Society be presented to the Mayor of this city for his kind invitation tendering the use of the City Council chamber for the meeting of the Society, also to the Charleston Library Society and to the Chamber of Commerce, for their kind invitations, which was unanimously adopted.

The president-general read the following communication from the committee on the Yorktown celebration:

"WASHINGTON.

"At a meeting of the Joint Committee of Congress on 'The Yorktown Centennial,' held in the Capitol, December 10th, 1880, the following resolution, offered by General Joseph A. Hawley, was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the Society of the Cincinnati be requested to appoint a committee of one to confer with the sub-committee on "organization, programme, and expenses," this day appointed from this committee."

"A true copy from the records of the committee.

"Attest,

"JOHN S. TUCKER,
"Clerk of the Joint Committee of Congress
"on the Yorktown Centennial."

It was moved that the invitation be accepted, and that the president appoint a committee of one, as requested. The president appointed the Rev. Dr. Beatty, with power to appoint a substitute.

Mr. DeSaussure announced the decease of General James Simons, late vice-president of this Society and president of the South Carolina Society of the Cincinnati.

Mr. Cobb announced the decease of Admiral Henry Knox Thatcher, late president of the Massachusetts Society. The president stated that he had caused to be published expressions of regret on the decease of both these gentlemen.

Col. Sims announced the decease of Mr. Wm. B. Dayton, late assistant treasurer-general of this Society and secretary of the New Jersey Society.

Mr. Weidman announced the decease of Mr. James L. Harmar of the Pennsylvania Society.

Mr. Hamilton announced the decease of the Rev. Marinus Willett, and of the Rev. Mancius Hutton (a chaplain of this Society), both of New York.

It was moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to prepare resolutions in memory of the deceased members. The president-general appointed the following gentlemen on that committee, viz.: Mr. De Saussure, Mr. Cobb, Mr. Hamilton, Colonel Sims, and the Rev. Dr. Pinckney.

On motion, Mr. Cobb was excused from serving on the committee, and the Rev. Dr. Lothrop was appointed in his place. Mr. Hamilton presented a report of the amount of funds, etc., for the State of New York. It was ordered that similar reports from other State Societies be furnished to the secretary-general in time to be published with these minutes. They were subsequently furnished, and the whole number is as follows;

New York.—Amount of fund at par, \$22,000. Average number of beneficiaries, 6. Average amount paid to each, \$100.

Pennsylvania.—Amount of fund, \$36,050. Average number of beneficiaries, 18. Amount annually distributed amongst them, \$1,400.

Maryland.—Amount of fund, \$5,660. Number of beneficiaries, 5. Average amount paid to each, \$34.70.

New Jersey.—Amount of fund at par, \$15,000. Annual amount paid to beneficiaries, \$565.

Rhode Island.—Amount of fund, \$1,401.23. No beneficiaries.

Massachusetts.—Amount of fund, \$53,000. Number of beneficiaries, 56. Average amount paid to each, \$52.32.

South Carolina.—Amount of fund, \$5,500. No beneficiaries.

Colonel Sims offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the treasurer-general and the assistant treasurer-general of the General Society of the Cincinnati, for the time being, be, and are hereby authorized, in their discretion, to dispose of the whole or of any part of the United States bonds held for the Society, and invest the proceeds in bond and mortgage or other real securities, in their joint names, as joint tenants, and not as tenants in common, and the survivor of them or their or his successors.

Mr. Hamilton moved that an assessment of twenty dollars be made upon each State Society to defray the expenses of this meeting, which was adopted.

Mr. DeSaussure moved that the minutes of the meetings of the Society from its organization to the present time, be printed in book form for the use of the members of the Society, to the number of two hundred and fifty copies, at a cost of not more than two hundred dollars, which was adopted.

It was resolved that the secretary-general be directed to furnish the following number of copies of the minutes of this meeting to the different State Societies: Massachusetts, 25; New York, 75; New Jersey, 25; Pennsylvania, 50; South Carolina, 50; Maryland, 25; Rhode Island, 30. The whole number published to be three hundred.

The secretary-general asked permission to have such names on the original Pennsylvania roll (the property of the General Society) as are partially obliterated, restored at the expense of the Society, which permission was granted.

Colonel Sims, on behalf of the New Jersey Society, extended an invitation to the Society to hold its next triennial meeting at Princeton, New Jersey, which invitation was accepted, and it was decided to hold the meeting at that place on the second Wednesday in May, 1884.

General Cochrane, chairman of the committee appointed to consider the subject of the reorganization of State Societies that have been dissolved, presented two reports, unanimously agreed to by the committee, which are as follows:

Extracts from the minutes of the stated triennial meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati May 22d, 1878:

"The secretary-general read the following application:

"ALDINE HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, 22d May, 1878.

"To GEORGE W. HARRIS, *Secretary-General of the Cincinnati: Present.*

"SIR: The delegates appointed by the '*Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,*' beg leave to present their credentials as representatives of said Society, and respectfully request action thereon.

"We have the honor to be, sir,

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servants,

"NATHAN'L GREENE,

"DAVID KING,

"ASA BIRD GARDINER,

"JAMES M. VARNUM,

"DANIEL WANTON LYMAN.

"On motion of General Cochrane, the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the chair to consider the subject of the reorganization of State Societies that have been dissolved; to inquire into the circumstances attending the dissolution of any Society; the distribution of the funds; and that the papers and credentials in regard to any such application be referred to the said committee.

"The chair appointed General Cochrane, Rev. Dr. Lothrop, Judge Nixon, Dr. Wm. A. Irvine, and Mr. James Simons, Jr., the committee upon the resolution.

"General Cochrane, chairman of the committee appointed yesterday on the subject of the claims of Societies that had been dissolved, presented a report, and, by leave, submitted also the dissenting views of a minority of the committee, which, on motion of Mr. Hamilton, were accepted for consideration.

"Judge Nixon moved the adoption of the majority report

"General Cochrane moved to amend by adopting the minority report.

"On motion of Judge Elmer, a recess was taken until half-past two o'clock.

"Upon reassembling, the consideration of the report was resumed, and, after discussion thereupon, Mr. Hamilton moved that the application of the Rhode Island Society be recommitted to the committee to obtain fuller information, and to report at the next meeting of the Society.

"At the request of a delegate present the vote upon this resolution was taken as provided by the rule adopted in 1851, and it passed in the affirmative—ayes 14, nays 11; and thus the resolution was adopted, and the application recommitted."

General Cochrane also presented the following unanimous report of four of the members of the committee, the fifth, Judge Nixon, not having been present at their deliberations, nor being at the meeting of the Society.

The committee, to so much of the resolution under which they were appointed as directs them to consider of the reorganization of State Societies that have been dissolved, report, that having carefully examined that branch of the subject referred to them, in their opinion no further or other rule is necessary than that already existing and accepted by the Society at the stated triennial meeting thereof May 29th, 1872, and then and there agreed to, and ordered to be placed upon its minutes in the words following, viz. :

"To the General Society of the Cincinnati:

" Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered on Wednesday, May 29th, by Admiral Thatcher, at the request of parties in the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut, looking to and soliciting permission to resuscitate the Societies of the Cincinnati in those respective States, and, after such reorganization, to be admitted to full representation in the General Society, respectfully report that they have given the subject mature and careful discussion and deliberation, and as the result thereof respectfully submit for your consideration and action the following:

" While we are fully convinced of the supreme authority of the General Society in such matters, and cannot and do not admit the *right* of any State Society, which has once had an existence, and has since disbanded, and distributed the fund which was the main basis of their original organization, to resume its original status, yet we feel, and so report, after a review of the question presented, that it may be expedient and proper for the General Society to receive and consider any such application which may be made, provided that the same is made to the Society after a temporary organization has been effected by those applying; and after satisfactory evidence has been presented that the amount of the fund existing at the time of the disbandment of the Society has been fully made up (with simple interest from the date of such disbandment), a list being furnished of the descendants of original members now residing in the States who desire to revive the organization; and a full statement of the facts which induced such disbandment, and the disposition made of such funds by the members having the control of them at the time.

" HENRY K. THATCHER,
" *Chairman of Committee.*"

The committee, having been attended by the delegates accredited to the General Society by the Rhode Island Society, claimed by them to be in existence, and having examined the books and papers produced by them, and other evidence accessible to the committee, and bearing upon the subject; to so much of the resolution under which they were appointed

as directs them "to inquire into the circumstances attending the dissolution of any Society; the distribution of the funds, and that the papers and credentials in regard to any such application be referred to the same committee," further report:

That the Rhode Island Society was incorporated by an act of the legislature of the State of Rhode Island, December 28th, 1814, for the purpose of insuring the due application of its funds to the charitable uses contemplated by the "Institution;" that said charter of incorporation was surrendered by resolution of the Society July 4th, 1832, but which surrender was revoked, and the original charter revived, March 26th, 1878. As these legislative acts were thought to be foreign to the application of the delegates for seats in the general meeting of the General Society, as representatives of the Rhode Island Society, your committee did not advert to them, except as incidental to the history of the case, but proceeded to consider the facts bearing, under the "Institution" of the Society, upon the creation and continuance, the funds and their distribution, the dissolution and revival of the Cincinnati Society of the State of Rhode Island, and the claim of those applying to be admitted as delegates to represent it in the general meeting of the General Society of 1878.

The committee accordingly report:

I. The State Society of the Cincinnati in Rhode Island was originally organized in the year 1783, in accordance with the Institution of the Society. The original list of its members exists unimpaired in the possession of its alleged successor.

II. By virtue of its original list, the Society continued under the Institution from its foundation in 1783 without intermission to the year 1832.

III. The book of the original minutes of the Society shows that a committee was raised July 4th, 1789, to draft a code of by-laws. It was continued July 4th, 1792, but no minute has been found of the report of the committee, or of the adoption of the by-laws, each occasion as it arose appearing to have been governed by especial direction.

IV. It appears from the minutes that, by a vote, July 5th, 1784, it was resolved that not a less number than thirteen should constitute a meeting of the Society; which rule does not appear to have been changed. A subsequent vote of the Society, October 9th, 1786, empowered the standing committee to transact the business of the Society; and July 5th, 1790, the standing committee was ordered to consist of six members, afterwards increased to ten; at both of which numbers, four was voted to be a quorum of the committee.

V. The minutes record the meetings of the Society, regularly, from its foundation in 1783 to 1831, inclusive. It is recorded that fifteen members (a quorum) were present at the meeting on the 4th of July of that year.

It further appears that the treasurer's account was read and accepted on that occasion, and that Thomas Coles, the treasurer, and Thomas P. Ives were appointed a committee to invest the surplus funds in bank stock.

July 4th, 1832, the minutes show a stated meeting at which there were present eight members (not a quorum) and one honorary member. The treasurer's account was then read and accepted, but it seems not to have been recovered. The following resolutions are recorded as having passed at this meeting, viz. :

"*Resolved*, That the charter of incorporation of this Society be surrendered to the legislature of this State, the Society be dissolved, and the funds be divided and distributed to the surviving original members, and to the legal heirs or representatives of those who have deceased, in proportion to their several original deposits, deducting from their respective proportions any advances which may have been made by way of loans or otherwise.

"*Resolved*, That the president, treasurer, and John S. Dexter, be a committee to carry the preceding resolution into effect, and that on their completion of this business, notice thereof be given to all concerned.

"*VOTED*: That said committee be empowered to sell from time to time, such and so many shares of the bank stock belonging to the company (*sic*) as the occasion may require for the complete and entire distribution of the funds."

Ephraim Bowen was then the president, and Thomas Coles the treasurer of the Society.

A bill against the Society (designated) was then voted to be paid, and that the standing committee and the officers of the Society be continued.

Subsequently there appear from the minutes to have been meetings of the Society and of the standing committee, at which business was transacted as follows:

A meeting of the standing committee, August 29th, 1832, at which six members (a quorum) were present, when it was voted that the resignation of Thomas Coles as treasurer of the Society be received; that his last account, received that day, be read and audited, and that the thanks of the Society be tendered to him.

Colonel John S. Dexter was then made treasurer and successor of Thomas Coles, and Thomas C. Hoppin was empowered to receive the books, papers and property of the Society, and to deliver the same to Colonel John S. Dexter, taking from him a receipt for the same. It was further voted that Henry Ward be a member of the Society.

A meeting of the standing committee, June 22d, 1833 (without note of the number present), to arrange for a dinner July 4th, 1833, for twenty-five or thirty persons.

A meeting of the Society, July 4th, 1833, at which eight members (not a quorum) were present, when the standing committee was continued, and when it was voted that the president (E. Bowen), treasurer (John S. Dexter) and Thomas Coles be a committee to carry into effect the vote of last year for distributing the funds of the Society among its members. An adjournment was then taken to the next year.

A meeting of the standing committee, June 28th, 1834, at which five members (not a quorum) were present, to arrange for a dinner July 4th ensuing.

A meeting of the Society, July 4th, 1834, at which five members (not a quorum) were present, the record of which states only that "the Society dined at the Franklin House."

No meeting is recorded of the standing committee in 1835.

A meeting of the Society in Providence, July 4th, 1835, at which five members (not a quorum) were present, when the existing officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, and when a statement by John S. Dexter, the treasurer, of his accounts to that date was received and placed on file. An adjournment was then had to the same place, July 4th, 1836.

There is no minute of any subsequent meeting, either of the Society or of the standing committee.

VI. At the Triennial Meeting of the General Society in Boston, May 29th, 1872, the following preamble and resolutions were, on motion of Admiral Thatcher, adopted and referred to a committee of one from each State :

" WHEREAS, in consequence of inquiries from descendants of Revolutionary officers residing in Rhode Island and Connecticut, transmitted through Admiral Thatcher, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Greaton, of New York, as to whether the reorganization of defunct State Societies required the permission of the General Society ;

" Resolved, That it be referred to a committee, to consist of a member from each State Society, to inquire and report on the expediency and propriety of permitting (and upon what terms and conditions) the reorganization of any State Society now dissolved, which might apply to the General Society for permission to reorganize."

The chairman named as the committee on this resolution: Admiral H. K. Thatcher, Massachusetts; Mr. John W. Greaton, New York; Mr. William B. Dayton, New Jersey; Commodore A. H. Kilty, Maryland; Mr. James L. Harmar, Pennsylvania, and Mr. James Simons, Jr., South Carolina.

Mr. Dayton, of this committee, read the following report, which was agreed to and ordered to be entered on the minutes :

"To the General Society of the Cincinnati:

"Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered on Wednesday, May 29th, by Admiral Thatcher, at the request of parties in the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut, looking to and soliciting permission to resuscitate the Societies of the Cincinnati in those respective States, and after such reorganization to be admitted to full representation in the General Society, respectfully report that they have given the subject mature and careful discussion and deliberation, and as the result thereof respectfully submit for your consideration and action the following:

"While we are fully convinced of the supreme authority of the General Society in such matters, and cannot and do not admit the *right* of any State Society which has once had an existence, and has since disbanded and distributed the fund which was the main basis of their original organization, to resume its original status, yet we feel, and so report, after a review of the question presented, that it may be expedient and proper for the General Society to receive and consider any such application which may be made, provided that the same is made to the Society, after a temporary organization has been effected by those applying, and after satisfactory evidence has been presented that the amount of the fund existing at the time of the disbandment of the Society has been fully made up (with simple interest from the date of such disbandment), a list being furnished of the descendants of original members now residing in the States who desire to revive the organization, and a full statement of the facts which induced such disbandment, and the disposition made of such funds by the members having the control of them at that time.

"HENRY K THATCHER,
"Chairman of Committee."

VII. It having become known that an attempt was making before the legislature of Rhode Island, to divert the fund of the Rhode Island Society, which remained in the custody of the incorporation of the Society, from its proper purpose, nine of the eldest lineal descendants of original members of the Society organized and successfully opposed it by procuring, March 26th, 1878, from said legislature, an act recognizing the act of incorporation of the Society, December 28th, 1814, and procured it to be so amended as to make them, and one other with them, the successors of the original incorporators, and so as to empower them to hold for the benefit of the Rhode Island Society, the fund remaining and belonging to it.

VIII. On the notice of the aforesaid lineal descendants, twelve of the eldest lineal descendants of the original members of the Rhode Island Society, a list of whom is hereunto appended, assembled, December 12th,

1877, in the State of Rhode Island, and organized themselves, by electing a president and the other officers named by the institution for the State Societies, and having appointed five delegates to represent the so organized State Society, at the triennial meeting of the General Society in 1878, did thereupon adjourn to meet within said State, July 4th, 1878, and thenceforward have continued their meetings, and transacted their business periodically.

IX. Subsequently, the officers of the Society so elected took possession of, and hold the promissory notes of various members of the Society to the amount, as stated, of \$1,500, for moneys loaned previous to the aforesaid resolution of dissolution of July 4th, 1832; and applied for and received about \$640 of principal and accumulated interest on four shares of the Union Bank, standing in the name and to the credit of the Rhode Island Society, on the books of the bank, and remaining unsold and untransferred.

X. Funds.—The original minutes of the Society, while noting the presentation and acceptance of the treasurer's accounts, do not anywhere furnish a record of them, either in detail or summary. From the entries, however, under dates of July 4th, 1831, 1832, and 1833 respectively, where a committee was, in 1831, authorized to invest the surplus funds; another, in 1832, to divide and distribute them among the members, and another, in 1833, to carry into effect the resolution of distribution of the previous year, an inference is warranted that the Society was not destitute of means. But what their amount, how invested, and what their ultimate disposition, can be but approximately ascertained. It should be observed, however, that this difficulty is probably the result of a practice of destroying the papers in his possession, shown to have been habitual to Colonel John S. Dexter, the last treasurer of the Society; while specific evidence produced to the committee, proves the destruction by himself, during his residence at Cumberland, in 1835 and onward, and by his granddaughter, Mrs. Snow, under his direction, subsequently in 1873, of whatever papers of the Rhode Island Society were under his control.

That such papers had been delivered to him, may be presumed in the absence of proof to the contrary, from the probability that Thomas C. Hoppin, who was charged by the standing committee, August 29th, 1832, with their delivery to him, discharged that duty. Nevertheless, four separate and detached statements have assisted the committee to a practically reliable conclusion.

The first of these is endorsed, "List of names of the Rhode Island Society of Cincinnati." It was discovered by a Mrs. Cranston, on search among the papers, in her hands, of Thomas Coles. The handwriting is that of Thomas Coles throughout. It contains the names of the officers, members (original members, probably,) of the Rhode Island State Society

of the Cincinnati, and the money paid by each, in sums from \$75 to \$20 respectively. Then follow informally these detached memorandums:

Whole capital deposited,	\$2,567 36
Stock, viz. :	
59 shares Exchange Bank,	\$2,950 00
12 shares Manufacturers' Bank,	600 00
34 shares Union Bank,	850 00
	<hr/> \$4,400 00

The effect of this statement will be hereafter considered.

The second statement is in the words and figures following, viz. :

"July 4th, 1832.

"Is a statement of expenses from July 4th, 1832, to August 8th, being small expenses, \$84.09, and cash on hand, \$577.28. Cash on hand, July 4th, 1832, \$661.30. Amount deposited in Blackstone Canal Bank.

"Account examined and found correct.

"THOMAS C. HOPPIN, *Auditor.*

"Signed, THOS. COLES."

This statement, though primarily referred to, July 4th, 1832, is not the report appearing by the minutes to have been read and accepted by the Society, at its meeting on that day; for it purports to be an account of small expenditures in the interval between that date and August 8th ensuing. Yet, its intrinsic evidence is to the effect that the cash on hand (\$577.28) 8th of August, 1832, was the balance of the cash on hand 4th of July previous, after deducting therefrom the small expenses (\$84.09) of the interval time. Evidently, this account is identical with the one voted to be received and audited, as the last account received that day from the treasurer (Thos. Coles) by the standing committee, August 29th, 1832. The amount of cash on hand August 29th, 1832, is therefore supposed to have been \$577.28.

Next is the statement of February 12th-19th, 1881, third in order of consideration, of J. C. Johnson, cashier of the Union Bank, of the sums standing on the books of the bank, at the dates specified, to the credit of the Rhode Island Society.

"August 29th, 1832, there were sixty-six shares of Union Bank stock in the name of the Rhode Island Cincinnati, and \$239.37 to its credit on the ledger. This latter amount appears to have been from dividends on the stock. August 31st, 1832, this sum (\$239.37) was withdrawn, and in 1833 and 1834 further credits from dividends of \$106.75 and \$108 were also drawn.

"From September 22d to July 22d, 1834, there were transferred at different times 42 shares of the stock, leaving July 4th, 1835, twenty-four (24) shares as . . . John S. Dexter reported. The stock transfers are all signed John S. Dexter, treasurer. We are unable to say who signed the checks for the withdrawal of the deposits, as they are probably among the ashes of the past. The par value of the stock is \$50.

"Of the twenty-four shares of Union Bank stock, reported as being in the name of the Rhode Island Society Cincinnati, July 24th, 1835, twenty of them were transferred during the interval between October 7th, 1835, and February 5th, 1839, both dates inclusive; and all dividends up to and including July, 1847, were receipted for and taken. The reorganized Society of the present time came into and assumed possession of the remaining four shares, and have received the dividends made since, and including January, 1848, to the present time. All transfers were signed by John S. Dexter, treasurer."

The \$239.37, dividends on stock, which the cashier states to have stood to the credit of the Rhode Island Society, on the books of the Union Bank. August 29th, 1832, could have been no part of the \$577.28 cash on hand, reported by the treasurer, Thomas Coles, to have been on that day deposited in the Blackstone Canal Bank; for the \$239.37 were not withdrawn from the Union Bank till August 31st, or two days afterwards, the \$577.28 having, two days before that, been reported as a balance of moneys in the treasury to the credit of the Society so far back as the 4th of July previous. Then, it is apparent that on the day August 29th, 1832,) when the treasurer, Thomas Coles, reported \$577.28 deposited in the Blackstone Canal Bank to the credit of the Society, there was also to its credit on the books of the Union Bank the further sum of \$239.37, so that its cash on hand July 4th, 1832, may be reasonably supposed to have been the sum total of these credits on the books of both banks, or \$816.65. Additional credits to the Society also appear on the books of the bank in 1833 and 1834 of \$106.75 and \$108.00. Other sums it seems were drawn at intervals to July 31st, 1847, the amount of which is not known. As all these were dividends of stock, accruing subsequently to the resolution of July 4th, 1832, to dissolve, they are not included in the cash on hand at that date; but will find expression in the interest of the principal fund, should its retrieval be prescribed as a condition precedent to the revival of the Society.

The discrepancy between the amount of sixty-six shares of bank stock, at \$55 per share, \$3,630, credited by the Union Bank to the Society, August 29th, 1832, and between the cash, \$816.65, shown to have been on hand July 4th, 1832, and the \$4,400 of stock, and the \$2,567.36 cash on hand, named in the statement of Thomas Coles, hereinbefore given, being a discrepancy in stock of \$770, and in cash on hand of \$1,750.71, is not assumed as chargeable against the Society. Neither date nor any

circumstance with which the statement can be connected, demands its reference to any particular time. It seems to have been an unofficial memorandum, of a miscellaneous and general character, made by Thomas Coles for his private use, while he was treasurer of the Society, at some period of his incumbency from 1825 to 1832. It is not in the form of an account—purports to be a list of the names of the members of the Rhode Island Society, and roughly estimates its fund.

It being impossible to reconcile it with the treasurer's reports of 1832 and 1835, which survive, either as to amount of cash on hand or of bank stock, or as to the banks in which the funds of the Society were deposited, it is reasonable to suppose that the statement refers to a period so long anterior to the year 1832, that no safe conclusion can rest upon it of the amount and condition of the funds of the Society in the latter year. For these reasons it is rejected as a basis of accountability. Upon the opposite assumption, however, that its full amounts should be accounted for, there are considerations which, it is submitted, require that the Society should not be subjected to injury therefrom. As has been said, the statement can be predicated of no specific date. It is more pertinent to 1825, the first year of Thomas Coles's term, than to 1832, the last; and if cash on hand was, as is probable, reduced legitimately from \$2,567.36 to \$577.88, in his official life, the inquiry is pertinent whether the \$4,400 of bank stock in 1825, may not also have been in like manner reduced to \$3,630 in 1832. The book of original minutes discloses that the demands upon the Society for assistance must have been frequent and large. The inference is warranted that considerable expense must have been incurred in the burial of the dead; and so importunate appear to have been its living members for relief, that loans were made to them upon the security of their promissory notes. There is an account of some of these left in Thomas Coles's handwriting. There is evidence that there were others. They appear to have been in small and large sums, from \$40 to \$500, and of various dates, from 1801 to 1827, and probably later. Though these loans were irregular and injudicious, and must have impaired the integrity of the fund, guaranteed by the institution as *permanent*, yet, the apparent urgency of the necessity which caused the violation, may be invoked to relieve it. These loans are claimed to have aggregated some \$1,500, and may have been more. For these reasons it is surmised that the bank stock sold, and the cash expended, previous to the resolution of July 4th, 1832, which ordered the then existing fund to be divided and distributed, were absorbed by loans to relieve the personal necessities of the members of the Society. Improvident as it was, the evidence is not thought sufficient to charge any wilful violation of the trust fund, upon the Society to 29th August, 1832.

The minutes of no meeting, either of the Society or of the standing committee, after that date, refer to the treasurer's accounts or to fiscal affairs, till the meeting of the Society, July 4th, 1835, when they record

that "a statement of the treasurer's accounts up to that day was read and placed on file." Apposite to this entry we come to the statement fourth, named as containing a report of the finances of the Society. It is indorsed in Colonel John S. Dexter's, the treasurer, handwriting. "Statement of the concerns of the Rhode Island Society of Cincinnati, July 2d, 1835." The caption of the interior is in the same words, the date there being July 4th, 1835. The whole is written by the treasurer, and is as follows:

" Remaining funds of the Society, viz.:

" 24 shares of stock in the Union Bank @ \$55 per share, .	\$1,320 00
" Cash, Blackstone Canal Bank,	105 68
" Cash in my hands,	32 20
" Dividend on Union Bank Stock,	<u>42 00</u>
" Surplus fund of the Society,	\$1,499 88

" JOHN S. DEXTER,

" *Treasurer.*"

That this account was not destroyed with other papers of the Society in the treasurer's hands, is accounted for by the fact that it seems to have been a paper which he did not retain. His original letter to Colonel Ephraim Bowen, president of the Society, dated Cumberland, July 4th, 1835, expresses "bodily indisposition and mental depression," as the reason of his inability to attend the meeting of the 4th. He therefore encloses to him the statement of his account as treasurer. It is doubtless the statement referred to by the minutes as having been received and placed on file July 4th, 1835. It is the last official account that survives of the fiscal affairs of the Society. Its caption, "remaining funds of the Society," literally corroborates the statement of J. C. Johnson, cashier, that of the 66 shares of the Union Bank which its books prove to have belonged to the Society August 29th, 1832, there *remained* 24, July 4th, 1835, and it is affirmative that of the cash proved to have been on hand to the credit of the Society July 4th, 1832, there *remained* \$179.88 July 4th, 1835.

Upon these proofs the conclusion is based that on the 29th day of August, 1832, the fund of the Rhode Island Society consisted of 66 shares of Union Bank stock, of the estimated value (at \$55 per share) of \$3,630, and of \$816.65 cash on hand, constituting a total, presumably referable to July 4th, 1832, of \$4,446.65, for which the Society is accountable. What became of it will be inquired in another connection

The effect is now to be considered, of these several facts, upon the status of the Rhode Island Society. And first, the question occurs, whether the Society was thereby dissolved? The resolution of July 4th, 1832, was plainly to this effect. It was not, however, the resolution of a quorum authorized to transact business. Even had a quorum been

present, it is questionable whether it would have been operative against the practical protest of a minority continuing the functions of the Society. But the resolution coupled with the decision to dissolve, a direction to distribute the funds of the Society among its members. It may be doubted whether such supplemental determination, unexecuted, would constitute, if opposed by a minority, a dissolution of the Society; but it cannot be doubted that a resolution to dissolve and distribute, whether adopted in the presence of a quorum or not, when followed by distribution and acquiescence for a long term of years, would be act of unquestionable dissolution.

No quorum ever assembled after July 4th, 1831. Eight members met July 4th, 1832, to dissolve the Society and divide the fund, and eight, July 4th, 1833, purposely to enforce the previous year's vote of distribution. The standing committee struggled to June 28th, 1834, and five members of the Society having met in Providence, July 4th, 1835, and placed on file the treasurer's last report, adjourned to the next 4th of July at the same place.

Thenceforward the Society was at rest during forty-two years. Once only were its affairs heard from. It was at a triennial meeting of the General Society, May 18th, 1872, when an inquiry was made by descendants of Revolutionary officers residing in Rhode Island and Connecticut, whether the reorganization of defunct Societies required the permission of the General Society. It is, therefore, concluded that the Rhode Island Society was dissolved, for the reasons, both that it was generally considered as dissolved, and that it was admitted to be so by those most nearly interested in its fate. Another view strengthens this conclusion. As has been stated an act was procured in 1878 from the Rhode Island legislature, reviving the charter of 1814. If, therefore, the surrender of the charter of incorporation by the resolution of 1832, required, as was thought, legislative re-enactment to revive the charter, the same resolution must be thought to have been equally efficient to dissolve the Society.

It is not believed to be difficult to identify the time of its dissolution with that of the resolution to dissolve. At no meeting thereafter, either of the standing committee or of the Society, does any business appear to have been entertained or transacted that did not appertain to the sale and distribution of its funds. It is true that the meeting of the standing committee August 29th, 1832, voted Samuel Ward a member of the Society. With this inconsiderable exception, its business was confined to the reconstruction and repair of the machinery designed by the resolution for completing the distribution, which the resignation of one treasurer (Thomas Coles), and the appointment of another (John S. Dexter), had deranged.

Its only two subsequent meetings of June 22d, 1833, and June 28th, 1834, were for ordering the annual dinners for the ensuing Fourths of July. The meeting of the Society, July 4th, 1833, next after that which adopted

the resolution to dissolve, affirmed it, by voting a rearrangement of the committee to carry it into effect. On the 4th of July of the next year it dined at the Franklin House, and at its last meeting, July 4th, 1835, it accepted and approved the report of the treasurer (John S. Dexter), submitted by the president (Ephraim Bowen), and agreed to by Thomas Coles, of the amount of cash remaining on hand, and the number of shares of bank stock remaining after the sale and distribution of the balance of the cash and bank stock belonging to the Society in 1832. Its business, therefore, transacted subsequent to its resolution to dissolve having reference only to the enforcement of the resolution, the date of its dissolution is, consequently, established at July 4th, 1832.

Whether, having been dissolved, there is a power to revive it, is a question which was answered by the General Society at its triennial meeting in 1872, in these words :

While the General Society "does not admit the *right* of any State Society which has once had an existence, and has since disbanded and distributed the funds which was the main basis of their original organization to resume its original status," yet, it asserts its power to authorize, and accepts the expediency of entertaining a proposal to that effect whenever made, provided that it be attended with certain conditions. These precedent conditions are : that a list shall be furnished of the descendants of the original members, residing in the States, who desire to revive the organization ; a previous temporary organization of the applicants ; satisfactory evidence that the fund of the Society, when disbanded, has been replaced, with simple interest from the date of such disbandment ; the reasons of the disbandment, and the disposition made of the funds by those having the control of them. Some of these conditions may be said, in the main, to have been observed in the present instance. With two of them, however, there does not appear to have been compliance. The requirement of a previous *temporary* organization of the applicants is, in truth, but a logical consequence of the General Society's absolute denial of "the right of any State Society which once had an existence, and has since disbanded and distributed its fund, to resume its original status." Indeed, a primal *permanent* organization of the applicants, coupled with an admission of their rights, would not only supersede the necessity of permission to organize, but break that continuity of membership evidently contemplated by the Institution, as the sole depository of the power created by the founders of selecting their eldest male posterity, who should be judged worthy to bear the Society forward in constant succession forever. Yet twelve of the eldest lineal descendants of the original members of the Rhode Island Society, unhabilitated members of the Society of the Cincinnati, assembled in the State of Rhode Island, December 12th, 1877, and did then and there organize themselves, by their unassisted right, into the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Rhode Island.

Thenceforth, to the present time, has the organization so effected assumed the cognizance and exercised the functions of the defunct Society. The information previously conveyed to them in answer to their own application directed a different course. It was five years before, that in response to the inquiry of the descendants of Revolutionary officers, residing in Connecticut and Rhode Island, the General Society had instructed them of their privileges and the manner of obtaining them. These instructions, as hereinbefore stated, were explicit—so explicit, indeed, that your committee conclude that a necessity, conceived to be paramount, must have supplanted them with measures supposed to be more capable of the emergency. The emergency is seen to have been the attempt by strangers to appropriate, by the authority of the Rhode Island legislature, whatever remained of the funds of the Rhode Island Society in the hands of the incorporation of 1814. It was successfully met, and \$640 of principal and accumulated interest, on four of the bank shares belonging to the Society, August 29th, 1832, were recovered and secured.

The esteemed and honorable character of the actors; their derivative title to represent within the Cincinnati, the ancestral worth and virtue of its original members; their persistent efforts to reconstruct, and their efficient zeal to aggrandize the Society of their native State, may be accepted in palliation of their error, and entitle them, in their claim to have revived the Rhode Island Society, to be heard now upon the question of their compliance with the only remaining conditions, whose performance has been prescribed by the General Society, as necessarily precedent to an official recognition of the fact. This condition, in the language of the General Society is "that satisfactory evidence has been presented that the amount of the fund existing at the time of the disbandment of the Society has been fully made up with simple interest from the date of disbandment."

As we have seen, the funds of which the Society was possessed, and for which it is accountable, amounted to \$4,446.65, of which \$3,630 consisted of sixty-six shares of stock in the Union Bank, @ \$55 per share, and \$816.65 of cash in hand and on deposit. Of the sixty-six shares of bank stock, four shares, as hereinbefore stated, having been accounted for, reduces the deficit to sixty-two shares, of the estimated value (@ \$55 per share) of \$3,410.

There is no direct evidence that the cash deposited and on hand was distributed among the members. It is true that the resolution of 1832 directed its distribution, and it is probable that it followed that direction. It is also possible that it may have been retained by the treasurer, or have been used by him in defraying expenses official or personal. In neither case should the Society be held accountable (especially when question is made of its dissolution) for the possible remissness of its officer; and either case may be charitably supposed, where no proof positively forbids.

The bank shares, however, fall to another category. The books of the bank show that sixty-two of the sixty-six shares were sold by the treasurer, Colonel John S. Dexter, from the year 1832 to 1838, inclusive. When the resolution to distribute was passed July 4th, 1832, Colonel Ephraim Bowen was president, and Thomas Coles was treasurer. The second of the resolutions of that date empowered the president, treasurer, and John S. Dexter, to carry the preceding resolution of distribution into effect, and the third empowered the committee "to sell, from time to time, such and so many shares of the bank stock of the Society as might be required to complete the entire distribution of the funds of the Society." August 29th, 1832, Thomas Coles resigned, and a vote of the standing committee, thereunto duly authorized, made Colonel John S. Dexter treasurer in his place. Thereupon the Society, at its meeting, July 4th, 1833, reorganized the committee, with the president, treasurer, and Thomas Coles; a nominal change only, because of the previous resignation, August 29th, 1832, of the treasurership by Thomas Coles, and the simultaneous accession of Colonel John S. Dexter to it.

The committee, in carrying into effect the resolutions of distribution, appear uniformly to have resorted to the official agency of the treasurer, John S. Dexter. The proof is positive that, as treasurer, he sold and transferred sixty-two of the bank shares, and the sale of the sixty-two shares proves as unerringly that they were required to complete the distribution of the funds, as the omission to sell the remaining four shares proves that they were not required for the purpose. The obstacle to distributing the full sixty-six shares doubtless was the recalcitrance of the members, to whom the four untransferred would have fallen under the resolution of distribution. Were further proof needed that distribution followed the sale of the bank shares, it is to be found in Colonel John S. Dexter's, the treasurer, report, July 4th, 1835. Having in September, immediately after he became treasurer, August 29th, 1832, begun the transfer of the sixty-six shares, he had effected the disposal of forty-two of them by September 22d, 1834. His report, July 4th, 1835, charging himself with twenty-four shares, admits the transfer of forty-two, and his omission to charge himself with their avails, proves them to have been distributed. The remaining twenty shares, transferred by him in 1837-1838, evidently followed in the wake of the preceding forty-two; and the tale of distribution, under the resolutions of 1832, was, as far as possible, complete.

But, it is claimed that the treasurer acted without authority. If so, the Society should have repudiated his action; and yet, from 1832 to 1877, during forty-five years, there was acquiescence in it. It is objected that, as treasurer, he was required to file a bond; and that having neglected to do so, his official acts were not obligatory on the Society, and void. The resolution of the Society on this subject is to be found in its book of original minutes, July 4th, 1789, as follows:

"Resolved, That the treasurer shall give bond with two securities, in a penalty (described), to the president and his successors in office, in trust for the Society, for the faithful discharge of his duty. He shall keep regular accounts, and submit them to the inspection of the standing committee, whenever required."

Clearly, the tenure of the treasurer's office is not hereby encumbered with a condition. He is simply charged with a duty. As well might it be reasoned from the resolution, that the acts of the treasurer would be void *ab initio*, if he failed to keep regular accounts, and submit them when required, to the inspection of the standing committee, as to reason that they would be void *ab initio*, if he failed to file the required bond. These requirements belong to the same class. They equally are duties devolved upon the treasurer, when in office, and not conditions precedent, to qualify him for it. Besides, as appears from the minutes, Col. Dexter was treated by the standing committee, and accepted by the Society, as treasurer, in their official intercourse from August 29th, 1832, the date of his election, to July 4th, 1835, as long as their meetings continued. The minute under date of his election, that he "was then made treasurer and successor of Thomas Coles," is unqualified with a proviso; and that he was then considered by the standing committee as absolutely invested with the office, is settled by their order of the same date, also entered in their minutes, that Thomas C. Hoppin deliver to the treasurer the books, papers, and property of the Society, and that the treasurer give a receipt for the same.

The vote of the Society, July 4th, 1833, which, because of the resignation of Thomas Coles and the concurrent election of John S. Dexter as treasurer, retained upon the previous year's committee of sale and distribution, the president and treasurer, two of its members, and, for the same reason, substituted for the name of John S. Dexter that of Thomas Coles as the third, though designed as we have seen, to preserve the committee, of the identical members Ephraim Bowen, Thomas Coles, and John S. Dexter, who originally composed it, was in effect, a distinct recognition of John S. Dexter's plenary title to the office of treasurer.

At the last meeting of the Society, July 4th, 1835, the adoption of the report of the treasurer, John S. Dexter, by the five members who were present, proves him not only to have been in the unconditional possession of the office, but establishes by the authority of the meeting which ordered his report on file, as an approved record of the Society, the fact which he reported that twenty-four shares remained of the sixty-six shares of bank stock that belonged to the Society, when three years before (August 29th, 1832,) he became its treasurer. This is not all; of the five members present at this meeting, Ephraim Bowen, the president, was one; for the report of the treasurer, having, as before mentioned, been transmitted to him from Cumberland, where the treasurer was physically and mentally indisposed, must have been presented to the meeting by him, if presented

at all; and that it was presented, appears from the entry in the minutes, that "a statement of the treasurer's account up to this day was received and placed on file."

A paper entitled to consideration, from the conceded familiarity of its author with the archives of the Rhode Island Society, read by Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., before the Rhode Island Historical Society, April 30th, 1878, informs us that not only was Colonel Ephraim Bowen present at this meeting, but Thomas Coles also. Now Ephraim Bowen, the president, and John S. Dexter, the treasurer, were two of the members of the committee authorized by the resolutions of July 4th, 1832-1833, to sell and distribute the bank stock of the Society. Thomas Coles was the third. The report then having been prepared and signed by the treasurer, presented by the president, and adopted by Thomas Coles, all of the committee appear to have concurred in the fact apparent on its face that forty-two shares of bank stock had been sold and distributed. In other words, the committee authorized by the Society to sell and distribute sixty-six shares of bank stock, assented to and submitted a report that twenty-four shares remained of the sixty-six shares ordered to be sold and distributed, and the report was accepted and placed on file.

The Society thus appears, by its last recorded act, July 4th, 1835, to have approved of the committee's work done under the resolutions to dissolve. Indeed, beyond the inert protest of the four unsold shares, no dissenting voice seems ever to have been raised against the sale and distribution of the fund.

The amount of the fund, its distribution, the authority of the treasurer to distribute it, and acquiescence in its distribution having been shown, the necessity of repairing the act is next to be considered.

The officers of the American army combined themselves into ONE Society; the Society of the Cincinnati called the General Society, in reference to its division into State Societies for the sake of frequent communication. It is not, therefore, a Society confederated of State Societies, but an integral Society, with divisions within the States. The institution, which is the organic law of the Society, directs the manner both of creating and disposing of its funds. They are declared to be permanent, for the use of the State Societies wherein contributed, to the extent only of their interest. They are dedicated to the relief of the unfortunate members of the Cincinnati and their families, when and wherever they suffer. Begotten of the toil, and consecrated by the blood of the ancestral founders, they were declared by them, with singular solemnity, to be inviolate forever. Upon this trust they were deposited with the State Societies, and upon this trust they hold them; stewards of funds, the proprietary right in which is with the Society at large. It is plain, therefore, that to invade them or to divert them from their appointed use is a breach of trust. It may not be questioned that in a court of conscience the decree would be prompt, that the act be redressed and the trust fund be reinstated.

Nor does it admit of doubt to what tribunal the delinquent is amenable. The trustee is accountable to the author of the trust for its due administration and management. Having provided funds and established their permanence, the "Institution," after restricting the proceedings of the State Societies to consistency with its provisions, finally subjects them to the revision and control of the General Society at its general meeting. These are rights which inhere in and are proper to the "Institution." The uniform practice of the Society has conformed to them. Its minutes disclose that at frequent general meetings a report from each State Society has been demanded and made of the amount of its funds, the number of its beneficiaries, and the sums annually distributed among them. This is true of the general meetings in 1829, 1872 and 1875, while in that of 1878 it was resolved that each State should make such a report at every general meeting thereafter.

Your committee is not ignorant that it is advanced by those who claim to have revived the Rhode Island Society that its enforcement of a by-law which excludes from membership the descendant of any of those to whom the funds of the Society were distributed until full restitution is made of principal and interest, is a sufficient expiation of the offence. It is answered that the offence was not committed against the Society, but by it; and, further, that if exclusion from membership is judged by the State Society to be due to those whose ancestors partook of the distributed funds, it is worth considering whether it would be unjust that the General Society should exclude from affiliation the State Society under whose authority the distribution was made until principal and interest of the funds distributed be restored.

Finally, it may be said, that the principle involved, and the restitution claimed, are fully affirmed in the recovery and restitution by the applicants to their permanent fund, of the four shares of Union Bank stock, and accumulated interest. These four went with the sixty-two, to make up the sixty-six shares of the Society in 1832, and were justly recovered from those who held them without authority or right. The distribution of the sixty-two shares was equally without authority or right; and as the restoration of the four shares and their interest to the permanent fund was thought necessary and right to revive the Society, it is impossible that the restitution of the sixty-two shares and their interest, for the same purpose, should be thought to be unnecessary and wrong.

The committee are satisfied that many, if not all, of the gentlemen who participated in the proceedings to resuscitate the Rhode Island Society, are inaccessible, either they or their ancestors, to the reproach of having partaken in the distribution of the fund of the Society.

JOHN COCHRANE,
Chairman.

List of the descendants of original members of the Cincinnati Society in the State of Rhode Island, who, December 12th, 1878, organized

themselves into a Society, claimed to be the re-institution of the original Society:

Joseph F. Arnold, Samuel C. Blodget, Wm. Wallace Brown, Thomas V. Carr, Hon. James M. Clark, Hon. Nathanael Greene,	Simon Henry Green, Dr. David King, John Wanton Lyman, William Rensiter, Dr. Henry E. Turner, James M. Varnum.
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On motion, the above reports were accepted and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Mr. Hamilton moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, be received, and in due order of succession be restored to its legitimate functions under the constitution of the Society, whenever, within three years, the value of sixty-two shares of the Union Bank of Providence, Rhode Island, at fifty-five dollars per share, which it possessed when it dissolved, with simple interest thereon at —— per cent., from July 4th, 1832, the date of its dissolution, to May 22d, 1878, the date of its application to be received, be restored to its permanent fund.

Resolved, further, That said Society is not to be considered as received, nor delegates therefrom to the General Society as entitled to be received, until the performance of the above named condition, within the time above named, duly certified to the satisfaction of the president-general.

Mr. Lowndes moved to lay the resolution on the table. A vote by States being called for, resulted as follows:

Ayes.—New Jersey, 5 votes; Pennsylvania, 5 votes; Maryland, 5 votes; South Carolina, 5 votes; the assistant secretary-general, 1 vote;—total, 21 votes.

Nays.—Massachusetts, 5 votes; New York, 5 votes; the president-general, 1 vote; the secretary-general, 1 vote; the treasurer-general, 1 vote;—total, 13 votes.

So the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Lowndes offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Rhode Island Society be admitted to full membership as Cincinnati, that the delegates present be entitled to all the privileges and powers appertaining to such office.

A vote by States being called for, resulted as follows:

Ayes.—New Jersey, 5 votes; Pennsylvania, 5 votes; Maryland, 5 votes; South Carolina, 5 votes; assistant secretary-general, 1 vote;—total 21 votes.

Nays.—Massachusetts, 5 votes; New York, 5 votes, president-general, 1 vote; secretary-general, 1 vote; treasurer-general, 1 vote;—total 13 votes.

The resolution was thus adopted.

The delegates appointed by the Rhode Island Society were:

Hon. Nathanael Greene,
Prof. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., U.S.A.,
Dr. David King,
Dr. Henry Edward Turner,
Hon. William Warner Hoppin.

And alternates:

Hon. Daniel Wanton Lyman,
Mr. Samuel Chase Blodget,
Mr. Henry Thayer Drowne,
Mr. James M. Varnum,
Hon. Horatio Rogers.

There being present:

Hon. Nathanael Greene,
Dr. Henry E. Turner,
Prof. Asa Bird Gardiner,
Mr. James M. Varnum,

General Cochrane moved that that portion of his report which refers to the right of re-admission of State Societies in general (being based upon a resolution on that subject, adopted at a meeting of the Society held at Boston in 1872), be reaffirmed as the sense of the Society.

Rev. Dr. Beatty moved to lay the resolution on the table, which was adopted, and the resolution was thus laid on the table.

On motion,

The Society adjourned to meet at one o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, April 14th.

The Society met at the hour named in the resolution to adjourn adopted yesterday.

The Rev. Dr. Lothrop, chairman of the committee on rules and ordinances, made the following report:

"The committee on rules and ordinances, etc., beg leave to report that their appointment grew out of a resolution instructing the secretary-general to prepare and print for the use of the Society the rules and ordinances of the Society, with a complete list of the officers, and the officers and members of the several State Societies; but before the next triennial of the General Society the secretary-general died, leaving the work

demanded by the resolution undone; whereupon a committee was appointed to do the work. The chairman of this committee made a brief report at Philadelphia in 1878, and the matter was recommitted to them. Since the meeting in 1878 the chairman of the committee had had some correspondence with the present secretary-general, and has spent recently two or three days at Philadelphia looking over with him the records, so far as the rules and ordinances passed at various times by the Society are concerned, and from this examination he is brought to the conclusion that no good would accrue, no beneficial result be reached by printing these rules and ordinances as they stand now in the records.

"1st. Because some of these rules are impracticable, and have not been and never can be carried out and observed. For instance, there is a rule that the president-general shall be *ex-officio* a member of every committee that shall be raised; not its chairman, but a member, with a right to attend its meetings, take part in debates, and vote in its results, a rule imposing upon the president-general a duty he could not easily discharge, and conferring a privilege which he could not enjoy.

"Then among the rules or orders for the conduct of business at the meeting of the General Society, it is said, and the rule has never been repealed, that after the meeting has been opened and business has begun, no gentleman shall leave the room till the session is closed, a rule absurd in itself, and the enforcement of which would be a severe encroachment upon individual liberty.

"There are repeated ordinances requiring State Societies to make annual returns of their members to the secretary-general, and also requiring them to adhere strictly to the original principles of the Institution in admitting members, and there seems to have been often little or very limited compliance with these ordinances.

"There are ordinances or rules about the vote being taken by States, and yet no provision made as to how the State vote shall be determined, or whether, if only one delegate from a State Society be present, he may cast the whole five votes for a State, or no restraint upon his doing so. Then there are ordinances passed originally with a proviso that they should become a law if ratified by a majority of the State Societies, and then this ordinance is passed again, striking out the proviso, and the ordinance itself failing to adhere to the fundamental idea of the Institution, that every officer should have but one representative, a descendant of himself, a member of the Society.

"Then there is an ordinance that members of a Society of the Cincinnati living in a State where there is no Society, may form one among themselves.

"If this means that a dozen or twenty members of different State Societies of the old thirteen, residing in Illinois, for instance, may form a Society for that State, it is doubtful whether such an ordinance ought

to stand upon our record, and the ordinance makes no provision for the way these members shall proceed to form a Society.

"Then there is no provision for the way in which a defunct Society may be revived, though there is a vote authorizing persons having a claim to be members, and residing in a State where the Society is dissolved or disbanded, to become members in some other State Society.

"In short, the rules and ordinances of the General Society as they now stand in the records, are so confused and imperfect, sometimes a manifest departure from the original ideas and principles of the Institution, etc., that it is clear no good could come from printing them as they are; they need to be revised, corrected, made to harmonize, and then printed and made known to every State Society and every individual, that all may understand and adhere to the ideas and principles of the Institution. Upon this depends its strength, its permanence, and future usefulness. For this purpose, and as leading the way to their own discharge, the committee submit the following resolution:

"S. K. LOTHROP, *for the Committee.*"

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed, consisting of one from each State Society, to be chosen at the meetings of the State Societies on the 4th of July next, the one chosen, if unable to attend, to have the right, with the approval of the Society, to appoint a substitute, to which shall be added the president-general as chairman of the committee, and that said committee be instructed and shall have power to revise and modify the old, and present any new rules and ordinances that they may think best, with a view to make them a consistent and harmonious whole, that shall produce as far as practicable a greater uniformity in the action of the General and of the State Societies, that the whole order may be henceforth conducted faithfully on the ideas and principles of the original Institution, and the said committee be also instructed to consider and report whether, upon the original ideas and principles upon which the Society of the Cincinnati was established, it is practicable for any State Society that has deliberately committed suicide and voted to dissolve, disband, and divide their funds, can be revived and re-established, and if they deem this is practicable, then to consider and report further how this can be done, *i. e.*, upon what terms on the part of the General Society, by what action, rules, and proceedings on the part of those who would have a claim to become members of this defunct Society were it still in existence, and that this said committee be instructed to report at the next general meeting of the Society."

On motion, it was ordered that the report be accepted and entered on the journal of the Society.

On motion, the resolutions accompanying the report were adopted.

The committee to report on the death of deceased members asked that the chairman be authorized to prepare the memorial and transmit it to the secretary, to be entered in the minutes of this meeting, and that the secretary-general be directed to transmit copies of the same to the families of the deceased members.

The following resolution, offered by the committee on the Centennial anniversary of the Society, was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee be authorized to cause to be prepared a commemorative medal, with appropriate design and inscription, to celebrate the occasion of the Centennial anniversary of the foundation of the Society, and that the several State Societies be requested, at their next annual meeting, to determine the number of medals which each Society shall desire for the use of its members, not in excess of the number of its members, the same to be supplied at the expense of the said Societies.

Colonel Sims asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot be suspended so far as relates to the president-general, and that such election be held *viva voce*. The rule being suspended by unanimous consent, he then moved that the Hon. Hamilton Fish be elected president-general, which motion, being seconded, was unanimously adopted.

An election for the office of vice-president-general was ordered. The chair appointed Dr. Burgin and Major Gardiner to act as tellers. The tellers reported that Dr. William A. Irvine, of Pennsylvania, had received a majority of the votes cast, and he was therefore declared elected vice-president-general.

Mr. Alexander Hamilton declined a re-election to the office of treasurer-general.

An election by ballot was then held for secretary-general, treasurer-general, assistant secretary-general and assistant treasurer-general.

The tellers report the following as the result of the election :

Mr. George W. Harris, of Pennsylvania, secretary-general ; Mr. Richard I. Manning, of Maryland, assistant secretary-general ; Mr. John Schuyler, of New York, treasurer-general ; Dr. Herman Burgin, of New Jersey, assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of Major Gardiner, the thanks of the Society were unanimously tendered to Mr. Alexander Hamilton, for the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of the office of treasurer-general, and the Society expressed its regret at his determination to decline a continuance in the office.

Mr. Cobb moved that the thanks of the Society be tendered to the South Carolina Society for the very generous hospitality extended by them to the officers and delegates of the General Society, which was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Beatty pronounced the Benediction, and then, on motion, the Society adjourned.

GEORGE W. HARRIS,
Secretary-General.

NOTE.—The report of the committee on deceased members, not having been received in time for publication with these minutes, will be entered in the minute book of the Society.

1884

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, MAY 14TH, 1884.

The General Society of the Cincinnati convened in stated triennial meeting at the University Hotel, in the city of Princeton, New Jersey, on Wednesday, May 14th, 1884, at 12 o'clock M., in accordance with the resolution of the last triennial meeting, held at Charleston, South Carolina, the usual notice therefor having been duly given, there being present: Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D., president-general; Mr. John Schuyler, treasurer-general; Dr. Herman Burgin, assistant treasurer-general, and a representation from the several State Societies, to wit: From Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and South Carolina.

The president-general called the general meeting to order, and announced, with expressions of regret, the decease of Mr. George Washington Harris, secretary-general, and the absence, from illness, of Dr. William Armstrong Irvine, vice-president general.

Mr. Sims, of New Jersey, moved that Judge Advocate Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., act as secretary *pro tempore*, which was seconded by Mr. Cobb, of Massachusetts, and was unanimously adopted.

The secretary *pro tempore* then read the resolution adopted at the last triennial meeting of the General Society, naming the date and place of the present meeting.

Upon the call for the credentials of the representation from the several State Societies, Mr. Sims moved that the credentials be referred for examination and report to a committee of three, to be appointed by the president-general, which was adopted.

Mr. Sims, of New Jersey; Mr. Caldwell, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Lowndes, of South Carolina, were accordingly appointed such committee.

The president-general stated that the records of the General Society, lately in the official custody of the late secretary-general, had been brought from Philadelphia by Mr. Richard Dale, of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Pennsylvania, and that they were now in charge of this general meeting.

The committee on the credentials of delegates reported that the following-named gentlemen had been duly accredited by their respective State Societies, viz.: :

Massachusetts :

Delegates :

Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb,
Dr. Charles Dudley Homan,
Brevet Brig. Gen. Francis
Winthrop Palfrey,
Mr. Winslow Warren,
Rev. Samuel Kirkland Lo-
throp, D.D.

Alternates :

Mr. William Perkins,
Brevet Major Gen. Henry
Jackson Hunt, U. S. A.

Rhode Island.

Delegates :

Hon. Nathan'l Greene, M.D.,
Judge Advocate Asa Bird
Gardiner, LL.D., U.S.A.,
Hon. Henry Edward Tur-
ner, M.D.,
Hon. Wm. Warner Hoppin,
Hon. Dan. Wanton Lyman.

Alternates :

Mr. James M. Varnum,
Mr. Henry Thayer Drowne,
Right Rev. William Stevens
Perry, D.D., LL.D.,
Hon. Horatio Rogers,
Dr. John Sullivan.

New York.

Delegates :

Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D.,
Brig. Gen. John Cochrane,
Professor William Henry
Crosby,
Mr. John Schuyler, C. E.,
Mr. Thomas Wm. Chrystie.

New Jersey.

Delegates :

Hon. Clifford Stanley Sims,
Mr. Francis Barber Ogden,
Hon. John Thompson
Nixon, LL.D.,
Hon. John Fitch,
Rev. William Henry Horn-
blower, D.D. (*deceased*
since appointment).

Alternates :

Mr. William Bowen Buck,
Rear Admiral Chas. Henry
Baldwin, U.S.N.,
Hon. Jos. Griffiths Scott,
Lieut. Col. William Elmer
Potter,
Hon. John Lambert Cad-
walader,
Adjutant-General William
Scudder Stryker.

Pennsylvania:

Delegates :

Hon. William Wayne,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Grant Weidman,
Mr. Edmund Herbert Mc-
Cullough,
Mr. Francis Marinus Cald-
well.

Maryland :	South Carolina.
<i>Delegates :</i>	<i>Delegates :</i>
Mr. Wm. Smith Williams, Dr. Wm. Henry DeCourcey, Mr. Richard Meredith Mc- Sherry, Hon. Robert Milligan Mc- Lane, Mr. Wm. Benning Webb.	Hon. Wilmot G. DeSaus- sure, Hon. James Simons, Mr. Thomas Pinckney Lowndes, Mr. Felix Warley, Mr. Louis D. DeSaussure.
Upon calling the roll, the following representation responded to their names :—	
Massachusetts :	New Jersey :
Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb, Mr. Winslow Warren.	Hon. Clifford Stanley Sims, Mr. Francis Barber Ogd- den, Hon. John Fitch, Mr. Wm. Bowen Buck.
Rhode Island :	Pennsylvania :
Hon. Nathanael Greene, M.D., Judge Advocate Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., Hon. Henry E. Turner, M.D., Hon. Wm. Warner Hoppin, Hon. Daniel Wanton Ly- man.	Hon. William Wayne, Mr. Richard Dale, Mr. Grant Weidman, Mr. Francis M. Caldwell.
New York :	Maryland :
Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D., Gen. John Cochrane, Prof. William H. Crosby, Mr. John Schuyler, Mr. Thomas W. Chrystie.	Mr. Wm. Benning Webb.
South Carolina :	
	Hon. Wilmot G. DeSaus- sure, Mr. Thomas Pinckney Lowndes, Mr. Felix Warley.

A quorum being present, the minutes of the proceedings of the last triennial meeting of April 13th and 14th, 1881, were then read, and, on motion of Professor Crosby, approved.

The principles of the Institution of the Cincinnati were read by the secretary *pro tempore*.

The treasurer-general presented and read his account for the last three years, and submitted the vouchers.

The account is as follows:

Supplementary Account of ALEXANDER HAMILTON, late Treasurer-General.

1881.	DR.
	Balance in cash, according to account audited in Charleston, April 13, 1881,
April 20.	Received assessments, \$20 each, from New York, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and Maryland, . . .
" 28.	Received assessment, Pennsylvania,
" 29.	Received assessments, New Jersey and Rhode Island, . . .
June 2.	Deposited interest U. S. bonds,
	<hr/>
	\$379 24
1881.	CR.
April —.	Paid G. W. Harris, secretary-general, bill of printing, expenses as officer, Voucher No. 1,
May 17.	Paid bill, printing, "Boston Daily Advertiser," Voucher No. 2,
" 17.	Paid Charles C. Fulton, advertising, Voucher No. 3, .
" 17.	Paid "Providence Journal," advertising, Voucher No. 4,
June 13.	Paid G. W. Harris, secretary-general, bill advertising, printing minutes, Voucher No. 5,
" 23.	Balance in cash paid over to John Schuyler, treasurer- general,
	<hr/>
	\$379 24

NEW YORK, June 23d, 1881.

Received from Alexander Hamilton, late treasurer-general, one hundred and fifty-five $\frac{1}{5}$ dollars in cash, balance as above, together with five thousand one hundred dollars, United States $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bonds at par, said bonds being transferred to the names of "John Schuyler, treasurer-general, and Herman Burgin, assistant treasurer-general, trustees, or the survivor."

JOHN SCHUYLER.
Treasurer-General.

*Account of General Society of the Cincinnati, with JOHN SCHUYLER,
Treasurer-General.*

1881.	DR.
June 23.	Balance in Bank of New York, turned over from last treasurer-general,
	\$155 10
1884.	
May 14.	Interest from U. S. bonds,
	631 00
	<hr/>
	Total,
	\$786 10

1884.

May 14. No checks drawn against the bank account since 23d
 June, 1881.
 Balance on hand carried to next account, \$786 10
 Total, \$786 10

Princeton, N. J., May 14th, 1884.

PERMANENT FUND:

United States 4½ per cent. bonds,	\$5,000 00
United States 4½ per cent. bonds, registered,	100 00
Total,	<u>\$5,100 00</u>

JOHN SCHUYLER,
Treasurer-General.

On motion of Mr. Fitch the account was accepted, and ordered to be entered in the minutes.

On motion of Mr. Lyman a committee of two was appointed by the president-general to examine and audit the same. The committee consisted of Mr. Warren, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Dale, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cobb, president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Massachusetts, extended an invitation to the General Society, on behalf of that State Society, to hold its next triennial meeting in Boston, and moved that the next triennial meeting be held there.

Dr. Turner, on behalf of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Rhode Island, extended an invitation for the next triennial meeting to be held in Newport.

After discussion, the motion of Mr. Cobb was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Weidman it was decided to hold the next triennial meeting on the fourth Wednesday in May, 1887.

Mr. Sims, president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey, then extended an invitation to the General Society to dine to-morrow, the 15th instant, with that State Society, and announced that luncheon would be provided each day for the General Meeting. Also that arrangements had been made for through trains on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad to stop at Princeton Junction for the convenience of members.

On motion of Judge Advocate Gardiner, the invitation of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey was unanimously accepted, with thanks.

The president-general invited attention to the resolution adopted April 14th, 1881, for a committee on rules and ordinances to be appointed by

the several State Societies, and explained why he had not called a meeting of the committee thus appointed.

Mr. DeSaussure moved that the reasons given by the president-general in the premises, for his decision thereunder, be accepted and confirmed, and that the committee be continued under the former resolve to the next triennial meeting, which was adopted.

General Cochrane referred to the resolution adopted April 13th, 1881, to print the minutes of the proceedings of the General Society, from its organization to the present time, and stated that no action had yet been taken thereon.

Mr. Fitch moved that the minutes of the proceedings of the General Society, from its organization to the present time, be printed in book form for the use of the members of the order, under the direction of the secretary-general, at an expense not to exceed \$500.

Mr. Sims offered the following substitute, which was accepted by Mr. Fitch, and adopted:

"Resolved, That the proceedings of the General Society be prepared by the secretary-general, and that he cause the same to be printed, the amount paid therefor to be subject to the approval of the president-general."

The committee appointed to examine the treasurer-general's accounts and vouchers, reported that they had examined them and found them to be correct.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the report was accepted and, with the accompanying accounts, ordered on file.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel K. Lothrop, of Massachusetts, and Adjutant General William S. Stryker, of New Jersey, appeared and took their seats in the representation of their respective State Societies.

Mr. Ogden moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the books of the proceedings of the General Society, when published, shall be sold at cost to the members of the Society who may desire copies."

Mr. Webb suggested as an amendment, which was accepted by Mr. Ogden, that due notice be given to each State Society of the books being ready for distribution, and the cost thereof.

Dr. Turner suggested as a further amendment, which was accepted by Mr. Ogden, that one copy be furnished to each State Society.

After considerable discussion, Mr. DeSaussure moved as an amendment to strike out from Mr. Ogden's resolution all after the word "*Resolved*," and insert: "That, when printed, the proceedings be distributed among the State Societies in the ratio of the number of their members."

A vote by States being called for, resulted as follows:

Ayes.—Massachusetts, 5 votes; Rhode Island, 5 votes; New York, 5 votes; New Jersey, 5 votes; Pennsylvania, 5 votes; Maryland, 5 votes;

South Carolina, 5 votes; the president-general, 1 vote; the treasurer general, 1 vote.

Nays.—None.

So the amendment was adopted.

The resolution as thus amended was then adopted.

Mr. Cobb moved that an assessment of twenty dollars be made upon each State Society to defray the expenses of this general meeting, which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Sims a recess for one hour was taken, until 2.30 o'clock, p. m.

On reassembling at the hour named, all being present as before, the president-general submitted and read the resolutions, respectively, of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of South Carolina, passed February 22d, 1884, and the resolutions of the standing committee of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Pennsylvania, passed January 23d, 1884, on the decease of the late Secretary-General Harris, which were ordered on file.

Mr. DeSaussure submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That the General Society have heard with deep regret of the illness and consequent inability of our vice-president-general to be present, and that this resolve be communicated to him "

Mr. Sims announced the decease of the Hon. Lucius Q. C. Elmer, LL.D., late president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey, and of the Rev. Charles Clinton Beatty, D.D., LL.D., late vice-president of the same, and of the Rev. William Henry Hornblower, D.D., a delegate from the same to this general meeting.

Judge Advocate Gardiner announced the decease of Dr. David King, assistant treasurer of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Rhode Island.

Mr. Sims moved that a committee of three be appointed by the president-general to prepare resolutions in memory of the deceased members whose names have been mentioned, which was adopted.

The president-general designated Messrs. DeSaussure, Sims and Dale as such committee.

Mr. Sims moved that the resolution of the General Society, adopted May 5th, 1829, to wit: "That the members residing in any State not having a State Society of the Cincinnati, may form themselves into such State Society," be rescinded.

Prof. Crosby moved as an amendment, that the language of the original resolve of 1829 be limited so as to make it apply only to the original thirteen States, which amendment was accepted by Mr. Sims, who thereupon withdrew his motion and submitted it in the following form :

"Resolved, That the words 'any State' in the resolution of the General Society adopted on May 5th, 1829, shall only be construed to include any of the thirteen original States."

General Cochrane offered an amendment striking out all after the word "resolved," and inserting in lieu thereof the words: "That the resolution of the General Society of May 5th, 1829, relative to the formation of State Societies be, and hereby is, rescinded."

After considerable discussion, a vote by States being called for, resulted as follows:

Ayes—Massachusetts, 5; New York, 5; Pennsylvania, 5; the president-general, 1; the treasurer-general, 1. Total, 17.

Nays—Rhode Island, 5; New Jersey, 5; Maryland, 5; South Carolina, 5; the assistant treasurer-general, 1. Total, 21.

So the amendment was not adopted.

General Cochrane then moved that the subject of Mr. Sims's resolution be referred to a committee of three for investigation and report.

A vote by States being called for, resulted as follows:

Ayes—Massachusetts, 5; New York, 5; Pennsylvania, 5; the president-general, 1; the treasurer-general, 1; the assistant treasurer-general, 1. Total, 18.

Nays—Rhode Island, 5; New Jersey, 5; Maryland, 5; South Carolina, 5. Total, 20.

So the motion to refer was not adopted.

A vote by States being then called for on Mr. Sims's resolution, resulted as follows (the president-general being excused from voting at his request):

Ayes—Rhode Island, 5; New Jersey, 5; Pennsylvania, 5; Maryland, 5; South Carolina, 5; the assistant treasurer-general, 1. Total, 26.

Nays—Massachusetts, 5; New York, 5; the treasurer-general, 1. Total, 11.

So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Fitch stated that the Rev. James McCosh, S.T.D., LL.D., president of the College of New Jersey, extended an invitation to the General Society to visit and inspect the college buildings, and would be happy to show them in person, at the conclusion of the General Society's session for the day.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the invitation was accepted with thanks.

On motion of Mr. Fitch, the meeting then adjourned until eleven o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

May 15th.

The General Society met according to adjournment, at eleven A.M., the president-general in the chair.

Present:

Dr. Herman Burgin, assistant treasurer-general.

Massachusetts:

Rev. Samuel Kirkland Lorthrop, D.D.,
Mr. Winslow Warren.

Rhode Island:

Hon. Nathanael Greene, M.D.,
Judge Advocate Asa Bird
Gardiner, LL.D.,
Hon. Henry E. Turner, M.D.,
Hon. William W. Hoppin,
Hon. Daniel Wanton Lyman.

New York:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D.,
General John Cochrane,
Prof. William H. Crosby,
Mr. John Schuyler,
Mr. Thomas W. Chrystie.

New Jersey:

Hon. Clifford Stanley Sims,
Mr. Francis Barber Ogden,
Hon. John Fitch,
Mr. William Bowen Buck,
Adjutant-General William
Scudder Stryker.

Pennsylvania:

Hon. William Wayne,
Mr. Richard Dale,
Mr. Grant Weidman,
Mr. Francis M. Caldwell.

Maryland:

Mr. Richard Meredith McSherry,
Mr. William Benning Webb.

South Carolina:

Hon. Wilmot G. DeSausure,
Mr. Thomas Pinckney
Lowndes.

Mr. Henry Thayer Drowne, an alternate from Rhode Island, also attended, and was accorded the privileges of the floor.

The rough minutes of the previous day's session were read and approved.

Mr. Schuyler submitted and read the resolves of the standing committee of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New York, upon the decease of the late secretary-general, George W. Harris, which were ordered on file.

Dr. Greene moved a reconsideration of yesterday's vote, by which it was decided to hold the next triennial meeting in Boston.

The motion was adopted, and he then, as president of the Society of the Cincinnati, in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, renewed the invitation for the General Society to hold its next triennial in Newport, Rhode Island, and moved, as an amendment to the resolution of yesterday, that the General Society hold such meeting in Newport instead of in Boston.

Mr. Warren, on behalf of the Society of the Cincinnati, in the State of Massachusetts, said this motion met their concurrence.

Mr. McSherry on behalf of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Maryland, extended an invitation for the general Society to hold its next triennial in Baltimore.

The amendment was then adopted, and the vote being taken on the original motion as amended, it was unanimously decided to hold the next triennial meeting in Newport, Rhode Island.

Mr. Fitch moved a reconsideration of the motion by which it was decided to hold the next triennial in the fourth Wednesday in May, 1887, when motion to reconsider was agreed.

Mr. Fitch then moved that the second Wednesday in June, 1887, be the appointed time, instead of the fourth Wednesday in May.

Prof. Crosby moved as an amendment that the date be fixed as the first Wednesday in June, 1887.

Mr. Fitch accepted the amendment which was then adopted, and the original motion as amended was thereupon set aside, and the first Wednesday in June, 1887, fixed upon for the next triennial meeting.

Mr. Sims, from the committee on literary notices, then submitted the following report:

"The committee to whom was referred the announcement of the deaths of the several officers and delegates hereinafter named, report that:

"Mr. George Washington Harris, secretary-general, and president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Pennsylvania, died in Philadelphia, 27th November, 1883, after a brief illness. Elected at the meeting at Trenton in 1866 to the office of assistant secretary-general, he succeeded to that of secretary-general in 1875, and continued therein until his death. Elected president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Pennsylvania in 1874, he remained in that position until his decease. The warm interest which he evinced in the affairs of the Society, and his amiability earned for him the confidence and regard of his fellow-members.

"The Hon. Lucius Quintius Cincinnatus Elmer, LL.D., was born in 1793, and succeeded to the membership of his father, the Hon. Ebenezer Elmer, in 1845. He was long a justice of the Supreme Court, and also filled the office of attorney-general of the State, and served in Congress from 1843 to 1845. He was president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey from 1871 to his death, 11th March, 1883. In the civil relations of life his dignity of manner and purity of character gave to him an enviable position as a citizen—his interest and zeal in the order of the Cincinnati was shown by the active part he took in the many triennial meetings he attended as a delegate.

"The Rev. Charles Clinton Beatty, D.D., LL.D., who died 30th October, 1882, in his eighty-first year, was admitted to membership in 1823, and was vice-president of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of

New Jersey from 1871 to his death. He was also one of the chaplains of the General Society. This venerable clergyman attended the triennial meetings for many years, the last occasion being the meeting at Charleston in 1881; for several years previous to that date he was nearly blind. For nearly sixty years a member of the Society, his interest never lagged, and annually he took the long journey from Ohio to New Jersey to attend the annual meetings there.

"The Rev. William Henry Hornblower, D.D., a son of a former chief justice of New Jersey, and great grandson of Dr. William Burnet, the chief physician and surgeon, general hospital, Continental army, was admitted to the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey in 1870, and died 16th July, 1883, aged sixty-three years, being chaplain. A delegate to the General Society, he attended the triennial meeting at Charleston in 1881; re-elected as delegate, he died a few days after such re-election.

"The Hon. David King, M. D., assistant treasurer of the Society of the Cincinnati, in the State of Rhode Island, was born in Newport, Rhode Island, on the 12th May, 1812, and died there on the 7th March, 1882.

"He was sixth in descent from Philip King, who lived in Raynham, Massachusetts, in 1680, and was grand nephew of Captain Zebulon King, an original member, and nephew of the late Charles Bird King, an hereditary member in the Rhode Island State Society, whom he succeeded on the 12th December, 1877.

"Dr. King pursued his early studies at the Academy in Kingston, R. I., and graduated at Brown University as Salutatorian of his class in 1831. In 1834 he graduated at Jefferson Medical College as a doctor in medicine, and immediately began a successful practice of his profession in his native town, and subsequently gained three of the Fisk prizes for essays on medical subjects, which were published respectively in 1836, 1837 and 1839. He was successively vice-president and president of the Rhode Island State Medical Society, and for many years one of its censors. He was also one of the founders of the American Medical Association, and president for ten years of the Redwood Library and Athenæum, and president from its organization in 1853 of the Newport Historical Society. During his career he delivered a number of addresses and lectures to learned bodies on medical and historical subjects, many of which have been published. His library was one of the largest and best collections of any private individual in New England.

"In 1877 he became president of the Rhode Island State Board of Health, and held that responsible office at the time of his decease. In 1878 he attended the triennial meeting of the General Society at Philadelphia as a delegate from Rhode Island, and was one of the most earnest supporters of the Order."

The committee submit the following for adoption:

"Resolved, That in the deaths of the venerable members above named, the Society of the Cincinnati has lost associates valuable by reason of their character in the communities in which they severally lived, and from the interest which they manifested in the Order.

"Resolved, That copies of the foregoing minutes be transmitted to the State Societies of Rhode Island, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

"W. G. DESAUSSEUR, *Chairman.*

"CLIFFORD STANLEY SIMS,

"RICHARD DALE.

"15th May, 1884."

The report was thereupon accepted and the resolutions, as submitted, unanimously adopted.

Dr. Turner moved that the thanks of the General Society be given to Mr. Richard Dale, of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Pennsylvania, for having taken care of the archives of the General Society, after the decease of the late secretary-general, and for bringing them to this meeting, which was adopted.

Mr. Ogden moved that the Reverend Samuel Moore Shute, D.D., an hereditary member in the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey, and now professor in Columbian College, Washington, D. C., be appointed to act as a chaplain to the General Society, which motion was adopted.

Mr. Ogden then offered the following resolutions:

"WHEREAS, it is the province of the General Society, as laid down in the Institution, to 'consider the particular laws of the respective State Societies,' and 'to concert all measures which may conduce to the general intendment,' it has been considered well in times past to lay down such general principles as may guide the several State Societies in their action without infringing on that liberty which is guaranteed them under the Institution.

"AND, WHEREAS, the questions relating to succession and membership being of first importance, and the point on which the rules and regulations of the several State Societies have most widely varied, it has been the effort of the General Society for many years to harmonize the views and practical construction prevailing among the different State Societies.

"AND, WHEREAS, the resolutions adopted at Baltimore in 1854 were, as is stated in the preamble of the resolution confirmatory of them, adopted at Trenton in 1856, "the result of careful deliberation and successive action continued through a number of years," and have been practically accepted, if not formally adopted, by all the State Societies.

"AND, WHEREAS, the thirty years which have passed away since their adoption, have brought in a new generation of members zealous and

anxious to take advantage of the interest in the Society which the Centennial period just passed through has given rise to, it seems eminently proper, and a fitting time for the General Society to reaffirm those principles in the following resolutions:

"Resolved by the General Society of the Cincinnati in triennial meeting assembled: That each State Society has full authority to regulate the admission of members, both as to the qualifications of membership and the terms of admission; *provided*, that admission is confined to the male descendants of original members, or of such officers of the army and navy of the Revolution as may have been entitled to admission but who failed to avail themselves thereof within the time limited by the institution, or of such officers as may have resigned with honor or left the service with reputation.

"In failure of lineal male representatives, the State Societies may select from the collateral relatives of the above named classes, or those of any officer who died in service without leaving issue. It being understood that where there is more than one representative of a common propositus, the line of the eldest male posterity shall be suitably designated, not as excelling in dignity, but as *primus inter pares*.

"Resolved, That the succession to membership shall be construed by the rules of inheritance at common law, the officer from whose services the membership is derived, being deemed as the propositus in all cases; *provided*, that if the person upon whom devolves the succession, be found ineligible for any cause, or declines or omits to make application within a reasonable time, the State Societies have at their option the right to determine which, if any, of the other representatives of the officer shall succeed to the membership; *provided* also, that when eligibility to membership in succession devolves upon a minor, it shall remain in abeyance until such disability ceases."

Mr. DeSaussure moved that these resolutions be referred to the committee of the General Society on rules and ordinances, which motion was adopted.

Judge Advocate Gardiner offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of the General Society that when an application for relief from any member or his family, or from the descendant of any original member, is found to be necessary, such application should be made to the State Society wherein was deposited the contribution of the propositus of such applicant to the permanent fund."

Mr. McSherry then offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the General Society conceives the true construction of the Institution to be that where a descendant of an original member, or

person otherwise entitled to membership, shall apply for membership, and be otherwise eligible, he should not be deemed to be ineligible by reason of not being a citizen of the United States.

Mr. Schuyler submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

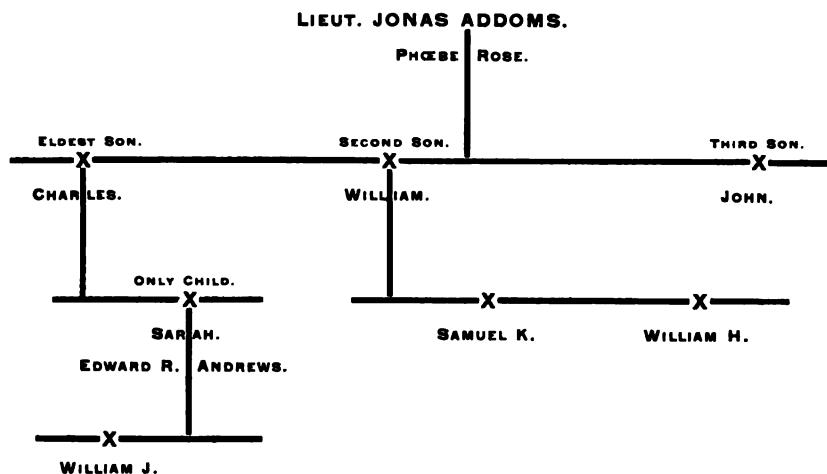
Resolved, That the treasurer-general be authorized to hire a box in the safety vault of the Bank of New York in which to keep the securities of the General Society, at a cost not to exceed twenty dollars per annum.

Judge Advocate Gardiner offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the subject of transfers of members from one State Society to another be referred to the committee on rules and ordinances, with instructions to consider the question and formulate resolves covering the subject and the intent of the Institution."

Mr. Schuyler offered the following resolution, which he asked might be submitted to the committee on rules and ordinances for consideration and report, which reference was so ordered:

WHEREAS, The question having arisen whether in the case of the death of an hereditary member have no male issue except a grandson, the issue of a daughter, such grandson shall be preferred to the male collateral; the Society conceives the true construction of the Institution to be, that the male collateral in the direct male line of descent from the propositus, the original member, shall be preferred.



The reports as to the amount of funds and number of beneficiaries in each State Society being called for, were submitted as follows:

Massachusetts.—Amount of fund, \$55,516.25. Amount annually paid to beneficiaries, \$2,695. Number of beneficiaries, 28.

Rhode Island.—Amount of fund, \$2,763.49. No beneficiaries.

New York.—Amount of fund, \$21,000. Amount annually paid to beneficiaries, \$240. Number of beneficiaries, 4.

New Jersey.—Amount of fund, \$16,388.85. Amount annually paid to beneficiaries, \$225. Number of beneficiaries, 9.

Pennsylvania.—Amount of fund, \$34,250. Amount annually paid to beneficiaries, \$755. Number of beneficiaries, 10.

Maryland.—Amount of fund, \$5,660. Amount annually paid to beneficiaries, \$142.50. Number of beneficiaries, 5.

South Carolina.—Amount of fund, \$5,500. No beneficiaries.

Mr. Caldwell offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That where an application for membership in any of the State Societies is made, due notice shall be served on the secretary-general and on the secretaries of the several State Societies, of the acceptance or declination of such application, and, when declined, the reason of the action of the Society in not favorably considering the application shall also be stated.

After discussion, the resolution, on motion of Mr. Warren, was laid on the table.

A recess of one hour was then taken until 2.30 o'clock, P. M.

On reassembling at the hour named, all being present as before, Mr. James M. Varnum, an alternate from Rhode Island, attended and was accorded the privileges of the floor.

Mr. Sims asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election of general officers to be by ballot, be suspended, so far as it relates to the offices respectively of president-general and vice-president general, and that such elections be held *viva voce*.

The rule having thereupon been suspended by unanimous consent, Mr. DeSaussure moved that the Hon. Hamilton Fish, L.L.D., of New York, be re-elected president-general, and, having put the vote, declared the motion unanimously adopted.

Mr. DeSaussure then moved that Dr. William Armstrong Irvine, of Pennsylvania, be re-elected vice-president-general, which motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Sims then nominated Mr. Richard Irvine Manning, of Maryland, assistant secretary-general, for the office of secretary-general, vice George Washington Harris, deceased.

Mr. DeSaussure stated that Mr. Manning desired respectfully but positively to decline the nomination, and his name was accordingly withdrawn.

Mr. McSherry thereupon nominated Judge Advocate Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., of Rhode Island, for the office of secretary-general.

Mr. Sims asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot be suspended so far as it relates to the office of secretary-general, and that such election be held *viva voce*.

The rule having thereupon been suspended by unanimous consent, Judge Advocate Gardiner was unanimously elected secretary-general.

Mr. Ogden nominated Mr. Richard Irvine Manning, of Maryland, for re-election as assistant secretary-general.

Mr. Sims asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot be suspended so far as it relates to the office of assistant secretary-general, and that such election be held *viva voce*.

The rule having thereupon been suspended by unanimous consent, Mr. Manning was unanimously re-elected assistant secretary-general.

Mr. Webb nominated Mr. John Schuyler, of New York, for re-election as treasurer-general.

Mr. Sims asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot be suspended so far as it relates to the office of treasurer-general, and that such election be held *viva voce*.

The rule having thereupon been suspended by unanimous consent, Mr. Schuyler was unanimously re-elected treasurer-general.

Dr. Turner nominated Dr. Herman Burgin, of New Jersey, for re-election as assistant treasurer-general.

Mr. Lyman asked unanimous consent that the rule requiring the election to be by ballot, be suspended so far as it relates to the office of assistant treasurer-general, and that such election be held *viva voce*.

The rule having thereupon been suspended by unanimous consent, Dr. Burgin was unanimously re-elected assistant treasurer-general.

On motion of Prof. Crosby, the thanks of the General Society were unanimously tendered to the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey, for the very generous hospitality extended to the General Society during the present triennial meeting.

Mr. Chrystie moved that the thanks of the General Society be given to President James McCosh, S.T.D., LL.D., Professor Charles Augustus Young, Ph.D., LL.D., of the Astronomical Observatory, and Mr. William Libbey, Jr., Sc.D., Adjunct Professor in Natural Sciences, in the College of New Jersey, for their polite attentions yesterday to the officers and delegates.

The rough minutes of the days' session were then read by the secretary-general and approved, whereupon, on motion of Prof. Crosby, the general meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

ASA BIRD GARDINER,
Secretary-General.

MAY 1 1910

